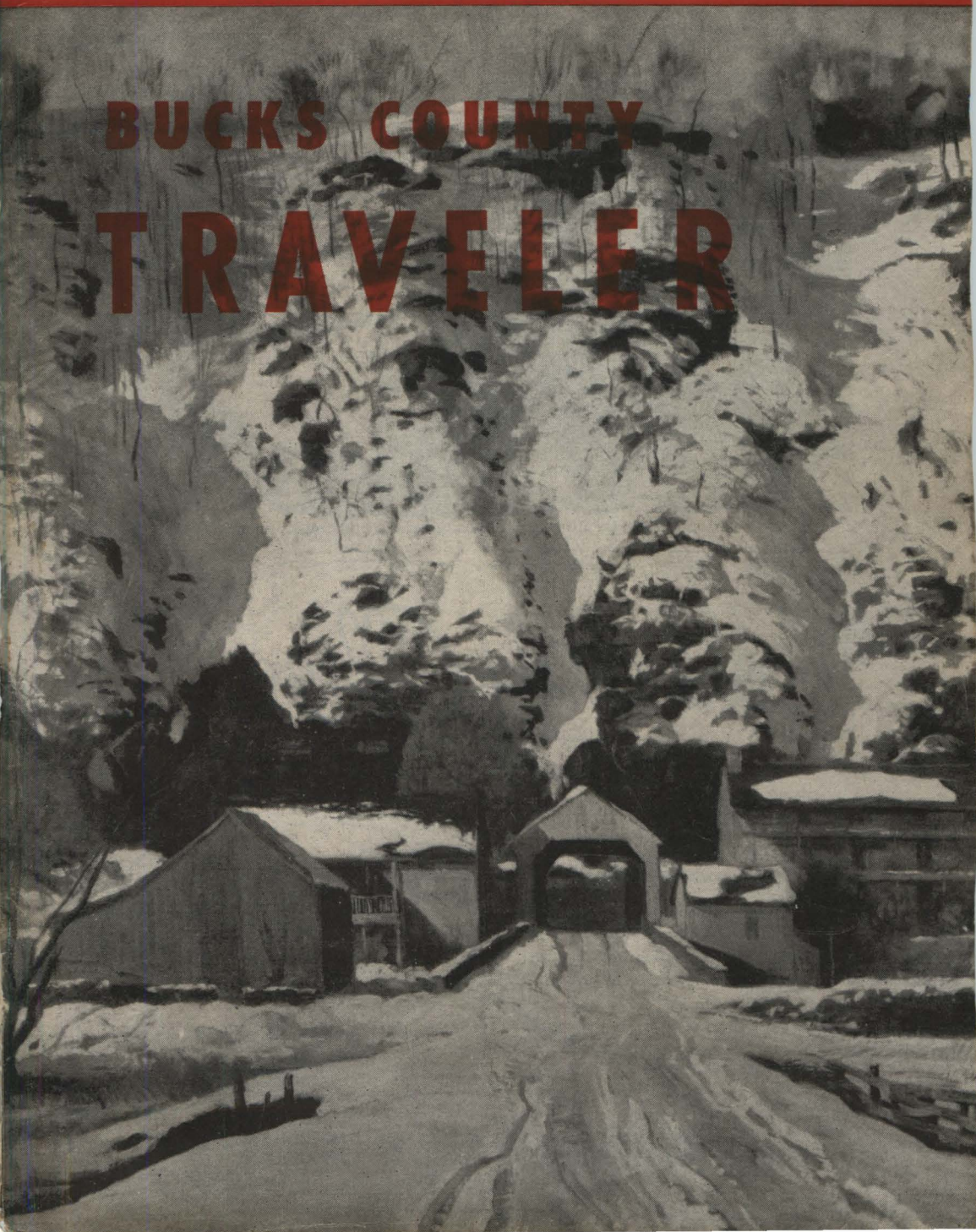
holiday in the county.
an artist's portfolio
the many moyers
fox hunting in huntingdon valley

DECEMBER 1955
25 CENTS

BUCKS COUNTY TRAVELER



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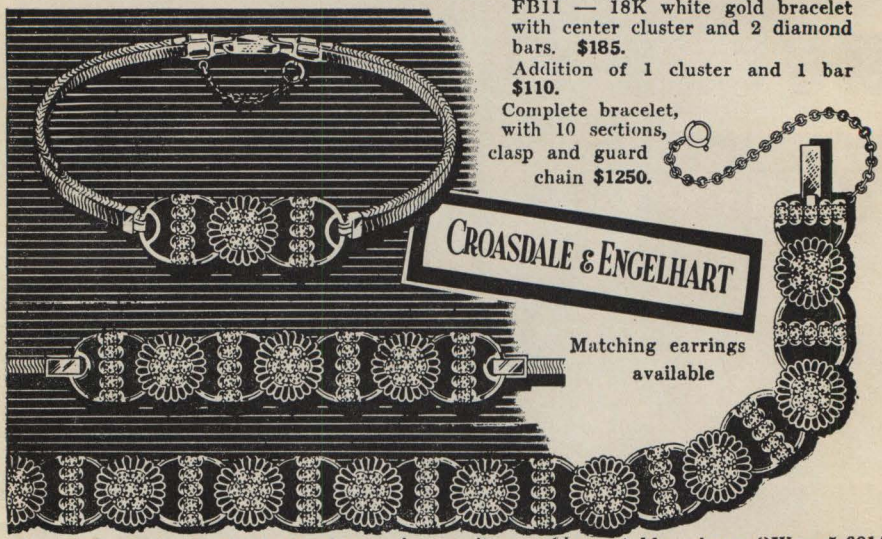

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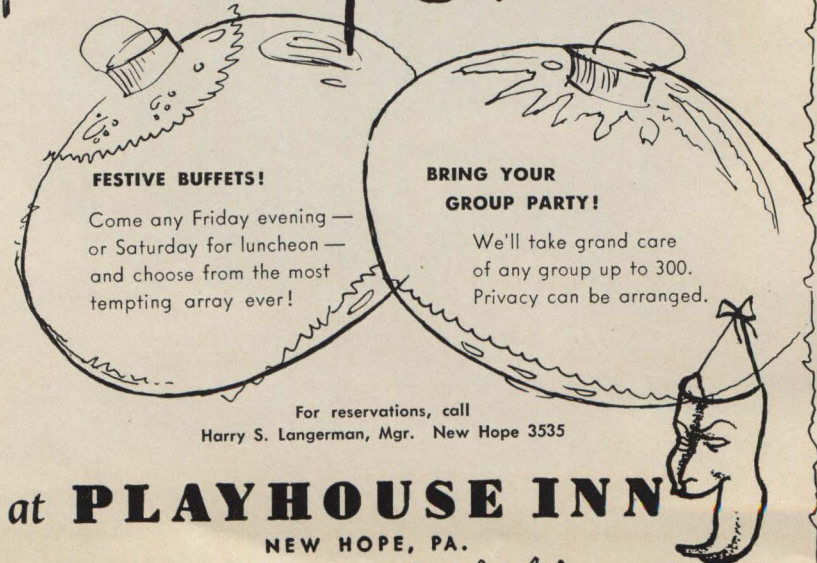

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BUCKS COUNTY TRAVELER

The County's Monthly Magazine

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Volume VII No. 3

CONTENTS

Letters 5
Guide 9
Calendar 11
Good Eating 13
Publisher's Page 19
Home of the Month 21
100 Years Ago 23
The Many Moyers 24
Holiday in the County 26
Victory at Christmas 44
In the Pink 46
The Hill of Vision 50
Man Behind the Window 54
A Christmas True Story 58
Crazy Tom and His Castle 63
Christmas at Neshaminy Manor 65
Symphony in the County 67
Levittown is Home for Christmas 68
Station Wagon Santa 72
Old Traveler 75
Windmills and Bubble Lights 79
Pie in the County Sky 82
Browsing Through Bucks with Brugger 85
County Checkerboard 86

COVER PICTURE

Daniel Garber's painting of the covered bridge at Uhlerstown depicts the majesty of the great hills, softened with shadowed snow, that rise abruptly just beyond the canal. One feels in the landscape the chill cold that drives people indoors to their glowing coal stoves. Beyond the bridge is Natalie Harer's picturesque house that was once a boatmen's inn. The snowy road winding through the old bridge is lonely, the canal ice-locked, which all aptly portrays the artist's title, "Bucks County Winter".

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF The Bucks County Traveler published monthly at Doylestown, Pennsylvania, for October 1, 1955.

The name and address of the owner, publisher, editor and business manager is Richard Alan Miller, Mechanicsville, Pennsylvania. There are no bondholders, mortgagees, or other security holders. (Signed) Richard Alan Miller. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of October, 1955. John Mason, Notary Public. (Commission expires February 23, 1957.)

Published in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Offices at Doylestown, Pa., and Easton, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Richard Alan Miller, Editor and Publisher; Henry Freking, Sara Maynard Clark and Hazel Gover, Associate Editors; Joseph Wolfe, Circulation Manager; Alex Stillano, Art Director. Editorial and Advertising deadline: 1st of month preceding date of issue. Subscriptions $2 a year, $3 outside continental U. S. Single copy price 25c, postage extra.

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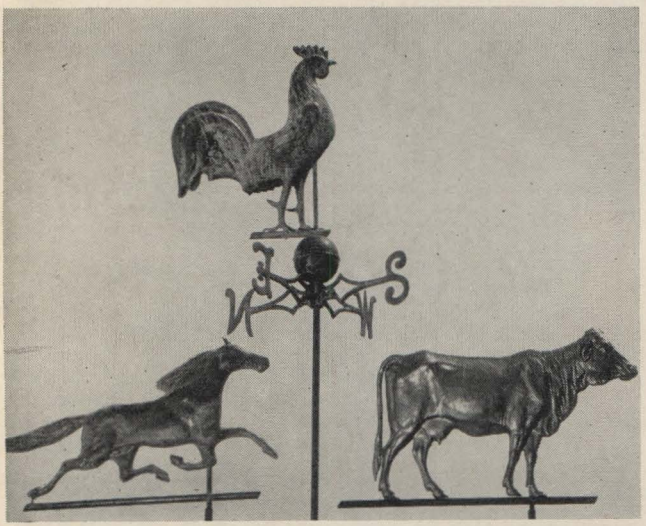

These weathervanes are made of copper hand-beaten into old molds, cut out by hand, and hand-soldered — exactly the way they were made 150 years ago. Included are a hand-spun copper ball, a set of brass cardinals and a steel spire complete and ready for mounting with fine old antique finish.

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From Our Readers

Gentlemen:

My wife and I have been frequent visitors to Bucks County during the past several years and are completely fascinated by its many historic, artistic and scenic attractions, and by the County spirit as exemplified in the TRAVELER.

Can you tell us whether there are any Dutch (Netherlands) Reformed Churches in the County? Perhaps one of your readers might have some information on this subject.

Henry M. Wells, Jr.
Neptune City, N. J.

(*There was a Low Dutch Reformed Church at Churchville. Our Churchville readers may have some information for Mr. Wells. Ed.*)

• •

Dear Editors:

I have been trying to visit all the places you mention so I can become acquainted with the County, especially the inns. I love good food and I am very slowly getting around. Washington Crossing Inn is a very special place to my family. In time I hope to be able to eat my way around the County.

H. L. Griswold
Trenton, New Jersey

(*Typical of many letters received. Ed.*)

• •

Dear Sir:

In the 9th grade of the Forbes Junior High School, we are selecting cities or towns and giving reports on them. I have chosen New Hope and I would appreciate it very much if you would send me the sample copy of your magazine and any other information you may have.

Patricia Kolesko
Hooversville, Penna.

• •

Gentlemen:

My main interest in Bucks County and Pennsylvania is historical and I am attending a class in Colonial American History and would like your help. I am interested in what sects were in Bucks County, what customs were in each sect, where churches are located and their dates.

(*We do our best to answer inquiries like the above with the assistance of our readers. Ed.*)

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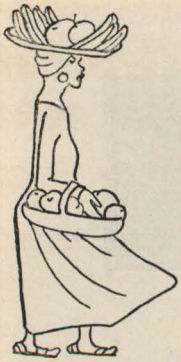

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Dear Editor:

The TRAVELER has inspired me to take a Bucks County weekend. I don't have a car. Hence how should I best come to Doylestown? Upon arrival I'd like to take a room, without meals, at an authentic old-fashioned hotel in a rural village atmosphere and be located at a focal point for getting around the county by bus, train or even cab.

Owen Grundy
The Villager
(Greenwich Village Weekly)

(*The sixty-four thousand dollar question—how to get around Bucks County without a car since the retirement of the street-cars. Ed.*)

• •

My dear Sir:

As one of the trustees of the Melinda Cox Free Library, I want to thank you for the excellent article about the Library in the October TRAVELER. May I make one slight correction? All the books are not bought from funds collected by the Friends of the Library. A great many are and the service of the Friends to the library is invaluable but the art and nature books are purchased from the interest of a legacy left by the late Mr. William R. Mercer.

The Village Improvement Association maintains a memorial book shelf for its deceased members and many of our appreciative readers donate books throughout the year.

Marie James Kister
Doylestown, Penna.

• •

Dear Editor:

My grandfather "Old Billy Cochrane" worked on the canal for sixty years, first as a boatman and then as locktender. I am sure many of your readers know of him. Recently my Grandmother Sadie Swank took us on a tour of New Hope. I am sorry all your readers do not have an opportunity to hear her tell of the old days when the trolley ran and New Hope was just an old-fashioned village.

Sarah Smith
Bristol

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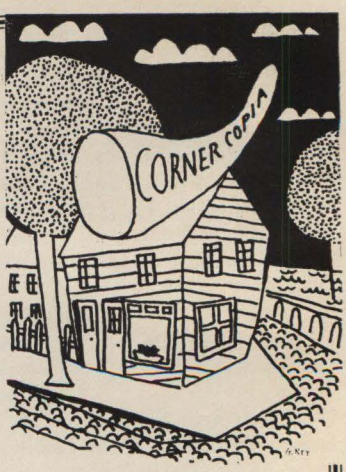

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Lenape Park—Perkasie. For picnicking and boating. Free.

Mercer Fonthill Museum—On East Court Street, Doylestown. The private collection of the late Henry Mercer, founder and builder of the Historical Museum. Open weekdays from 1 to 4.

Mercer Tileworks—The famed Tileworks of the late Dr. Mercer, located behind his home (Fonthill Museum) on East Court Street, Doylestown. Open weekdays 9 to 4:30.

Pennsbury Manor—The beautifully reconstructed home and gardens of William Penn. On the river between Morrisville and Bristol. Open daily from 10 to 4:30. Adults admission, 50 cents, children under 12, free.

Quakertown Municipal Park—On Mill Street, ice skating rink, picnic tables, fireplaces.

Buckingham Zoological Garden—On Route 413, one quarter mile northwest of Buckingham. Features world's largest snake. Open daily from noon until dark.

Beverly Hall—near Quakertown. Rose gardens, reflecting pools, lily ponds.

Story Book Zoo—Lincoln Hwy., west of Langhorne. Animals for children to pet, picnic grounds, boats. 50c Adm.

Railroad Museum—Upper River Road, Yardley. E. P. Alexander has collection of railroadiana and old toy trains. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. Also by appointment. Free.

Ringing Rocks—One and a half miles west of Upper Black Eddy, Bridgeton Township. Four acres of trap rock boulders, many of which ring loud and clearly when struck with hammer. In 1890 a Dr. Ott of Pleasant Valley collected enough to make a musical scale on which he played tunes, accompanied by the Pleasant Valley Band, at a meeting of the Buck Wampum Literary and Historical Association.

Ralph Stover State Park—On Tohickon Creek west of Point Pleasant. A scenic picnic area. Closes at sundown.

Washington Crossing State Park—One of the nation's major historical shrines, commemorating the famous crossing in 1776. On River Road between Yardley and New Hope. **The Lower Park** is the setting for the boulder marking the embarkation point. The nearby Methodist Church has on display the famed Leutze painting of General George Washington in a big rowboat from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The **Upper Park** at Bowman's Hill, 3 miles south of New Hope, has picnic fireplaces and tables and a wild flower preserve. Also of interest: burial ground for several Continental soldiers; the Thompson-Neely house open Saturdays and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment; bird banding every Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. Bowman's Tower commands a view of the valley. Closed at sundown. The park closes at 10 p.m.

Fallsington—Village on the Newportville Road and near Route 1 west of Morrisville. Earliest Friends Society organized in 1683. William Penn attended meeting here. Two early meeting houses are still used. One, built in 1789, is now the William Penn Center, an active community house. The other, built in 1841, is still used as a Meeting House. Other ancient houses and buildings of interest.

National Agricultural College—A private college of agriculture, offering a 4-year degree program. From the highway you can see the research laboratory (once the old Wayside Inn), diagnostic laboratory and dairy barn and training center.

Aquetong or Ingham Spring—At head of Aquetong Lake on Route 202 about two miles west of New Hope. Daily flow of water has been estimated at 3 million gallons. The dam was built to form the lake for the operation of a fulling mill that was rebuilt by Samuel D. Ingham in 1790 as the first paper mill in the county.

Lake Warren—In Nockamixon Township, hard to find so inquire at Ferndale or Revere. Dike was built in 1936 to impound waters of springs at foot of Boatman's Hill. Good picnic spot, fair fishing, lots of birds and water lilies.

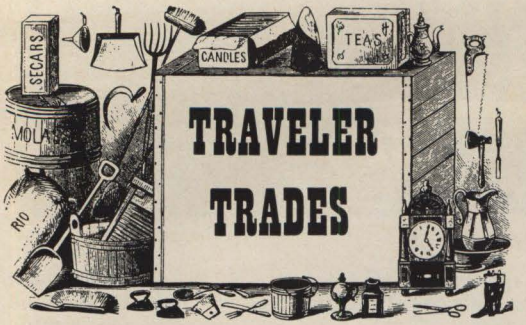
Menlo Park—Perkasie. Eight acres with free picnic tables and children's playground; swimming pool, bowling alley and other food and amusement concessions. No admission charge.

Durham Village—on Springtown Road (Pa. 212), off 611 south of Riegelsville. In and around this area are the sites of the original Durham furnace built in 1727 and the once-famous Durham cave which was rich in Indian and geologic lore.

Walking Purchase—the infamous agreement to acquire land to the extent of a day and a half walk. This was the first abandoning of Penn's Indian policy. Marker located near Wrightstown Meeting on Penna. 413 between Buckingham and Newtown.

John Wells' Grave—Monument to the founder of New Hope, originally called "Wells' Ferry". Rt. 202, west of New Hope.

Elephant—If you have never been to a town named 'Elephant," turn off Route 313 between Dublin and Quakertown, on Route 563 to the east. The town takes its name from an old tavern.



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EVENTS

Antiques Show—Tyro Grange Hall, Buckingham, Dec. 4-5-6.

Bucks County Writers' Club—Schwartzlander House, Doylestown. Course in writing by H. Malcolm Stewart, Dec. 4, 2 p.m. Dinner Doylestown Inn, 6:30 p.m. John Alexander talks on Article Writing at Schwartzlander House, 7:45 p.m. Dec. 19.

Bucks County Photographic Society—New Hope High School, 8 p.m. Dec. 7.

Christmas Parade, Doylestown, sponsored by Junior Chamber of Commerce. Arrival of Santa Claus. 7 p.m. Dec. 8.

Delaware Valley Protective Association—Annual meeting New Hope High School, 8 p.m. Public invited to meet state and army officials. Dec. 9.

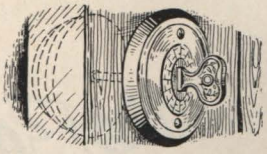
Federated Women's Clubs of Levittown—Annual Holiday Ball, Hotel Hildebrecht, Trenton. Dec. 10.

Bucks County Symphony Orchestra—Concert Central Bucks High School, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 10.

Democrat Victory Dinner—Armory, Doylestown. Dec. 10,

DAR Christmas Tea—Home of Mrs. Herbert T. Crough. 79 Broad St., Doylestown. Dec. 19.

DUTCH COUNTRY DOOR BELL



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- Where you can enjoy the ultimate in social gatherings.

The Fountainhead
NEW HOPE, PA.

Reservations should be made well in advance. For reservation or further information, contact Mr. Don Raleigh at New Hope 3321 or write the Fountainhead, Box 279, New Hope, Pa.

(Appreciating that no two people see eye to eye on food and drinks, we would like your complaints or suggestions if the restaurants we recommend do not live up to your expectations. Note: No liquor is served in Pennsylvania on Sundays.)

L — Luncheon D — Dinner
* — Closed Sundays ** — Closed Mondays

UPPER COUNTY

Delaware Oaks**—Rt. 611, Riegelsville. L-D. $2.50 ops. Sits among tall trees You'll like it for your family —very friendly. Bar.

Tohickon House**—Caffery Hill Rd. 1 m. north Pt. Pleasant. L-D $1.85-$3.25. Worth hunting up for view. Cooking good. Bar.

Mountainside Inn—S. Pt. Pleasant. L-D reas. Good, plain German-American food—they still don't allow shorts in the dining room. Draft beer and excellent sandwiches.

Ferndale Hotel—Rt. 611, Ferndale. L-D $1.50-$3. Also platters. Non-dieters, try home-made pies. No waiting for tables. Bar.

Cascade Lodge—Half mi. off 611 bet. Kintnersville and Riegelsville. Parties from four people to 150 by reservation only. Pies and cakes are really home-made.

Harrow Inn—Founded 1785. "Workingman's Bar" serves 10 oz. mug of draft beer, 10c. Fried chicken, real Bar-B-Q, short orders during hours. Closes bet. midnite and 2 p.m. depending on mood. Intersection 611 and 412 north of Doylestown.

Pipersville Inn**—Route 413 Pipersville L-D. Mother Brugger keeps a lively eye on kitchen while Brothers Bob and Joe keep conversation and good drinks moving over the bar. Calves' liver here the best we've ever eaten.

Eagle Hotel—Hellertown Ave. & Broad St., Quakertown. D.Room open Fri., Sat., Sun. Steaks as you like 'em. Bar.

Twin Gables—1222 Broad St., Quakertown. D. Room open Fri., Sat., Sun. Reas. Say their mixed drinks the best. Bar.

Trainer's Restaurant—Route 309, Quakertown. L-D Breakfast for the early birds. Anything you can think of, you can get at any time. Bar.

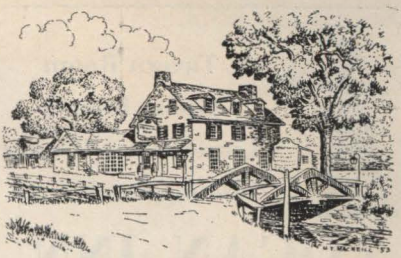
Meyer's Restaurant—Route 309, Quakertown. L-D. If you want a good dinner at reasonable prices this is it.

Benetz Inn*—Route 309, Quakertown. L-D. Their slogan, "A Good Meal at Any Time." When you eat there you will agree. Bar.

Washington House Hotel—Route 309, Sellersville. L-D. Famous for country food. "All you can eat—$2.00." Bar.

CENTRAL COUNTY

Black Bass—River Rd. Lumberville. L-D. $2.75 to $5· 18th century. Charming fireside eating. Try Roast Duck Normandy, Sweetbreads Madeira. Jack Travers at the piano Fri. and Sat. Bar.



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A COUNTRY RESTAURANT

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- *Sunday Dinner — Noon 'til 8*

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Except Mondays

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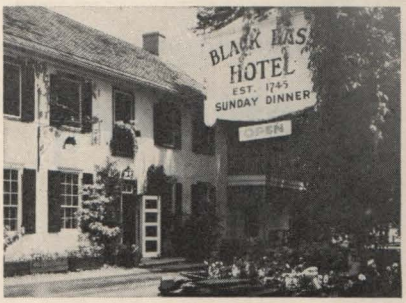

In 1745 this Hotel was a friendly refuge for the wayfarer traveling up or down the river. Today it is still a refuge with its gracious atmosphere, attractive rooms, and excellent food and wine.

Jack Travers at the Piano
Fri. & Sat.

LUNCHEON 12 - 2:30 DAILY
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Sugan 3071

Tavern Room
Guest Rooms
Luncheon Dinner
Closing date Dec. 22

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DINNER 5:30-10:00
After-Theatre Cocktails

2 miles from New Hope towards Philadelphia On Route 202 — By the Yellow Lantern

Enjoy a nightcap by our fireplace
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Southern Fried Chicken
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611 AT 412 HARROW, PA.

STEAKS SNACKS

O'Neill's Village Inn

SEAFOOD CHOPS

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In the County Seat

Take out service Doylestown 2128

Volare's*—Rt. 202 W. of New Hope. D and late snacks. $2-$4. Good food. Especially cosy for after—theater supper. Bar.

Old Cartwheel Inn**—Rt. 202 W. of New Hope. Gardens. L-D. Reasonable. Family atmosphere with good food. Bar.

Canal House*—By the canal on Mechanics Street in New Hope. Special winter entertainment—fresh young talent—atmosphere and good food. Bar.

Tow Path House**—New Hope. Two dollar dinners on week-day nights where diners can feel cozy and warm watching the fire in the circular fireplace when snow swirls against the wide windows. L-D. Bar.

Logan Inn*—New Hope. Outstanding home-style cooking. Closing December 21 for indefinite period. Opening announcement next issue.

Playhouse Inn**—New Hope. Excellent Chinese Food—Prime Ribs, Steak and Lobster. Fairly expensive—a plushy hotel—dancing week-ends. Buffet Friday night-Saturday noon—excellent selections for those who like to pick and choose. L-D. Bar.

Mel's Steak House—Closed Tuesdays—Ney Plaza off Mechanic's Street, New Hope. Practically New Hope's club for breakfast, coffee, snacks, talk. No dinner. Opens again at 8 P. M.

Albert's Coffee Shop**—Mechanic Street, New Hope—cozy atmosphere in a pine-paneled room where the cheese is real Swiss and the coffee so good you keep on drinking it. Open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. except Sunday when the closing hour is 5 p.m. Closed Monday.

Bird's Nest—Ferry Street, New Hope—it's the most for the youngsters who love to guzzle milk shakes and are real gone while records play from 9 a.m. to midnight. Closed Tuesdays.

River House**—S. River Rd. New Hope. Here the tourists look like tourists and love it. Good food. L-D. $1.75-$3.75 a la carte. Bar.

Shea's Tower Inn*—River Rd., Bowman's Hill. Short order cooking—chicken in basket, shrimp, roast beef, sandwiches. In a hurry? Try it. Bar.

Washington Crossing Inn**—L-D. $2.75-$3.75. Roast duckling best you can find. Music. Fun and singing Saturday nights. Bar.

Lavender Hall—Rt. 532, Newtown. Mint julep atmosphere with long white pillars. Delectable buffet Thursdays. L-D. Bar.

Temperance House*—Newtown. The name is only partially misleading. They serve beer, and home cooking with emphasis on sea food. L-D. Reas.

Old Anchor Inn—Doylestown Pike at 2nd Street Pike, Wrightstown—a good place for that warming drink on cold winter days.

Vincent's Warrington Inn*—Rt. 611, Warrington. L-D reas. Rooms for large parties. Seafood casseroles and platters worth ordering. Bar.

Howard Johnson's Restaurant—Route 611 near Horsham—air-conditioned—their reputation such we need only say "Stop for cones, milk shakes, hot dogs, or a full dinner." Pleasing decor.

The Barn—Buckingham. L-D with late snacks. Dancing. Arty atmosphere. We've been told curry dishes are good. They emphasize their Sunday dinners. Bar.

General Greene Inn*—Cross-roads at Buckingham (202-143). Revolutionary War generals ate here. Presumably, they liked plain food, low prices and draft beer. Bar.

Doylestown Inn—Doylestown. L-D. Prime ribs of beef. "Jug-in-the-wall" where people meet for $1 lunch. Home-made pie. Among others, M. L. Twiford's pictures on walls. Bar.

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148 Main St., Flemington, N. J.
Plenty of Parking, open Sundays.

Season's Greetings 1955 from BUCKS COUNTY'S SHRINE

Send to your friends this year a most unique personalized gift for Christmas

OUR PENNSBURY PLATE

Same design as we had the pleasure of making for Walt Disney when he dedicated the Walt Disney School in Tullytown.

We inscribe, permanently fired under glaze on the backside of the plate, the following inscription:—

SEASON'S GREETINGS 1955

from

(your name)

Your 8" plate (without the inscription shown on picture)

$3.75 post paid U.S.A.

Send check or money order, with printed name for inscription, also name and address to which the plate will be sent to:—

PENNSBURY POTTERY

MORRISVILLE, PA.

Stone Manor*—Buckingham. L-D reasonable with dancing for boys and girls, and oldsters, too. Bar.

FountainHouse—Doylestown. Energetic county politicking is conducted in the unlikely atmosphere of quiet comfort and antiques for sale. L-D. Bar.

Bucks County Inn—Doylestown. Returning to the battle for eating customers—with smorgasbord at lunch—dinner evenings. Bar.

O'Neill's Village Inn—W. State St., Doylestown. Small, not elegant, but good pies, clam stew and seafood in season.

Ed's Diner—Rt. 202, Doylestown. For the traveler who likes his atmosphere streamlined, his food plain, but good. Open 24 hours.

Conti's Inn*—Cross Keys. Since the Italians taught the French to cook, it isn't surprising to find good food here of all styles. L-D. Bar.

Valley Farm Restaurant**—611 north of Doylestown Hoping for a table groaning beneath its load of home-cooked goodies? Here it is.

Countryside Inn*—Cross Keys. L-D. You won't complain about the bill. Try sauerbraten and the snapper soup. Bar.

Goldie's Restaurant—Route 313, Dublin. Good reasonable meals anytime during the day.

LOWER COUNTY

Jack Hansen's Inn*—Old Lincoln Highway, Morrisville. L-D reasonable. Just the place when you aren't dressed up and don't want to go home to cook. Bar.

Pennsbury Inn*—Off Bristol Rd. nr. Pennsbury. L-D $2.50-$5. Spec. rate for small fry. Plan to stop when you visit the Manor. Bar.

Flannery's—Lincoln Highway, Penndel. L-D reasonable. Longest bar in the county. Prime ribs of beef and home-made pies.

Buck Hotel*—Feasterville. Old-timey inn with a chummy bar. L-D reasonable. Family parties frequently seen there.

Red Lion Inn—Andalusia. L-D $1.50-$3. Mother never made stew like this inn serves. You won't forget their French-fried shrimp or apple pie. Bar.

Trailblazer Diner and Dining Room—it's getting fashionable to dine in a diner—seafoods, steaks and chops cooked to your order. U.S. 1 at Trevose. Open all hours and all days.

LaCasa Charcoal Restaurant—Morrisville Shopping Center—L-D*-Charcoal broiled steaks—all the butter and coffee you can use—moderate prices—business luncheons for those in a hurry.

Trailblazer Diner and Dining Room #2—U. S. Route 13, Bristol.

luncheon? — yes indeed

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And Serving It for 40 Years

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WTTM DIAL 920

NBC Affiliate for TRENTON

BUCKS COUNTY TRAVELER

NINETEEN hundred and fifty-five times now the bells have rung the joyful news, nineteen hundred and fifty-five times the spirit of the day of the birth of the Child has come over the world, and each year the holiday season comes to us fresh and alive as if it had never been before. The animosities and rancors of the foregoing year seem to fall away in the face of the power of peace, and the only rueful reflection that arises is that this takes place only one month in twelve. Perhaps if we eased ourselves into it gradually, starting semiannually, then quarterly, we might be able eventually to make goodwill to all men a monthly occasion: once we got to that, the imagination reels at the possible consequences!

Incidentally, one of the peculiar quirks of a monthly magazine is the time factor; events must be written about well in advance of their happening, and here we find ourselves writing about Christmas before the Thanksgiving turkey has even seen the oven. The business and advertising might of the nation having made the conditioned reflex what it is in individual motivation, we consider it no small tour de force to be able to write this without the usual stimuli of the season: we haven't heard a bell, we haven't received a card, we haven't even urged to buy a thing; in short, we are running way ahead of the retail merchandising avalanche that engulfs us all at holiday time, and even so we can still make out Christmas there ahead.

Another difficulty and risk of the prepublication lag is the problem of predicting a month in advance what any given day or event will be like with enough accuracy not to make it obvious that the matter is outdated by the time the magazine reaches the stands. You would think now that certain subjects could be anticipated with a reasonable degree of security, but the rate of change in the world today is such that we feel a small cautious qualm about predicting even as safe a bet as the prevalence of the Christmas Spirit. The best we can do is to hope that our particular readership wil do their best to sustain us in this conviction, and we wish them a heartfelt Merry Christmas at it.

Speaking of what we hope our readers will do, many people lately have been telling us how much they enjoy the Traveler, but when we ask them whether they are subscribers, they seem to be under the mistaken impression that they are doing the magazine more good by buying it at their local newsstand. This is an impression we hasten to correct wherever we find it; the sad truth is that advertisers are impressed only by subscribers. If you've been enjoying the Traveler and have not yet subscribed, you must with us bravely face the fact that it's the advertisers who support the editorial pages you enjoy, so let's keep them happy. If you are a subscriber, think of some friend who'd enjoy knowing more about the county, and send it to him for Christmas.

WE should like at this time to nominate our personal candidate for the Man of Vision of 1955, Mr. Robert R. Coles, president of the Interplanetary Development Corporation. He has filed claim to the moon, and is selling quitclaim deeds to one-acre plots in Copernicus Crater, complete with fishing and winter sports rights, for only one dollar. This operation is now under scrutiny by the office of the New York State Attorney General, but we are inclined to regard them as spoilsports of the worst order. The moon has so long been the symbol of the unattainable that any man who bolsters the optimism of humanity by offering even the thought of owning an acre of the moon, and for only one dollar, deserves not persecution as a confidence man, but congratulations as a public benefactor.

The American Revolution in 1777, as Related to Bucks County

Letter (in part) from Major General John Armstrong to Pres. Wharton

Camp, near Bartholomews
22 Dec, 1777

The Winter position of the Continental Army, at what is called the Forge or Valley Hill, will, we hope, chiefly preserve the County of Chester, with several other good effects, whilst the attempt for the defence of the Counties of Philadelphia & Bucks, appears to remain chiefly, or rather wholly with the Militia of the State; an effort as arduous as it is laudible, and if attended with only a partial degree of success, will be all that the most sanguine reason can expect. . . .

Yr Most Humble Servant
JOHN ARMSTRONG

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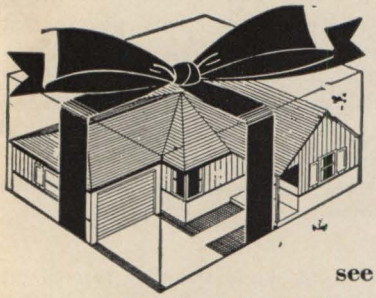

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Home of the Month

This stone house in its spacious setting of old trees and shrubbery is in Newtown, a village unique for preserving its Colonial atmosphere. Originally an 18th century farmhouse, it has been modernized without losing its ancient charm. Entering the house you will find a central hall, living room graced with its original fireplace, dining room, sun porch and powder room, all on the first floor, with a modern kitchen and a laundry room furnished with washer and dryer. Three pleasant, airy bedrooms and modern bath are on the second floor and two bedrooms and bath on the third floor. There is pine panelling and built-in beds and furniture, and a room with a flagstone floor and fireplace. This house has all the charm of a country home right in one of the most attractive towns of the county. A two-car garage has automatic doors and an ample storage loft above it.

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Tiny rubber animals
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Our Specialty - Custom Cabinets In Natural Birch & Knotty Pine

Edward J.
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Phone 621

Christmas Gifts that will be Handed Down . . .

Stroll down the towpath, or drive down S. Main and come in to see my unusual group of English brass, copper, pewter, china and glass items. Some are fragile, some sturdy as the British Bulldog — All are moderately priced.

YE LOCK HOUSE SHOPPE

S. Main Street, New Hope — By the Canal Barge Stop

BUCKS COUNTY

One hundred Years ago Today in the Press

Being excerpts from the Bucks County Intelligencer and the Doylestown Democrat of that time

A Head Sold By The Sheriff—At a public sale of the effects of Capt. Henry Love by the sheriff of San Francisco, the head of Joaquin, the celebrated California murderer and robber, preserved in spirits and the hand of "Three-fingered Jack", a companion in crime, to Judge Lyons for $36. Love had killed both men.

Fire Engine In Morrisville—We learn that the citizens of the Borough of Morrisville have purchased a handsome fire engine, hose carriage and a large quantity of hose which have all been paid for by voluntary contributions. They design forming a company to be composed of young and active men of the place. They have named their machine "The Delaware". The people of that place have suffered seriously by fire of late and wish to better guard against the recurrence of the calamity in the future.

Little Girls—There is something inexpressibly sweet about little girls. Lovely, pure, innocent, ingenuous, unsuspecting, full of kindness to brothers, babies and everything. They are sweet little human flowers, diamond dew-drops in the breath of morn. What a pity they should ever become women, flirts and heartless coquets.

Effect of Good Clothes—An offender was brought to our prison a few days since for safekeeping, so well dressed that the deputy temporarily in charge of the stone house, locked the constable up instead of the miscreant. The constable, however, soon discovered the mistake and an exchange of prisoners was made. This shows that there is some advantage to the wearer in a new suit of clothes—if they are paid for.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE LADIES

A Ladies Shoe Store has just been opened on Main St., Doylestown, over the Ice Cream Saloon where there will be kept on hand and made to order all kinds of Women's, Misses' and Children's Shoes. The subscriber respectfully invites his friends and the public to give him a call as he will warrant his work and sell cheap for cash.

A. Godshalk

DAGUERROTYPE LIKENESSES taken in exquisite style, at moderate prices, at the same place, by the same.

We owe an apology to our subscribers for the miserable paper we sent them last week, and for the manner in which it was printed. We expect soon to have an arrangement which will insure us a regular supply of good paper, and of uniform quality; then with the proper care and a little experience, on the part of a new hand at the press, we hope the Intelligencer will present an appearance worthy of the extensive patronage it enjoys. Our last issue extorted complaint from several borrowing readers, who ought to be, and no doubt soon will be advance-paying subscribers. If all our readers were subscribers we could afford to print on the very finest paper the mills could turn out.

Pork has run up to such a high figure at present that it takes considerable capital to buy a clever-sized porker. A friend estimating the cost of a hog weighing 400 lbs. at 9½ cents a pound was confounded at the total and concluded he couldn't "go the whole hog".

A DESIDERATUM

M. Jacobs anti-corrosive AMALGAM PENS. These pens will be found on trial to be superior to Gold or Steel, possessing more of the action of the quill than the Gold pen, they will be preferred. Each Pen is as durable as 8 made from Steel, and will not injure the tint of Red Ink, nor affect the durability of the Black; collecting none of that sediment in the ink which Steel pens invariably do. Price $2 per gross. For sale by Thornton and Green, Doylestown.

TO THE LADIES

The only place where Pinking and Ladies Circulars are Stamped is at the corner of State and Pine Streets next door to Yerkes Dentist Office.

Mr. L. Ginsley.

Mrs. M. G. Bear

Respectfully informs the LADIES of Doylestown and vicinity, that she is prepared to do Plain and Fancy DRESS-MAKING. Also Cloaks, Coats, Sacks and Mantillas cut and made in the latest style, and upon the most reasonable terms.

Three or four girls wanted to do work at the above business. Pinking in the newest style for a penny a yard.

The Many Moyers

ON an autumn day in 1727 the vessel Friendship docked at the very new town of Philadelphia and among the brave souls who landed there were Christian Meyer and his wife Barbara. Because they believed in the liberty of the soul, the church as a spiritual brotherhood and the acceptance of Christ and his teachings, they and their fellow Mennonites endured unbelievable persecution by the Swiss Catholics and Protestants. Some were sold as galley slaves, some were deprived of their children, martyrs were burned at the stake or drowned. They suffered heavy taxation and were deprived of church services in public meetinghouses. They were even prohibited to bury their dead in the city cemeteries.

Across the sea was William Penn's new land where these persecuted people were invited to come to worship as they pleased and enjoy the same rights as any other citizen.

Christian settled on Indian Creek in Lower Salford Township, Montgomery County. He bought 150 acres and with an axe as his only tool built a log house. There were five children, Christian Jr., Jacob, Samuel, Elizabeth, Anna and Barbara.

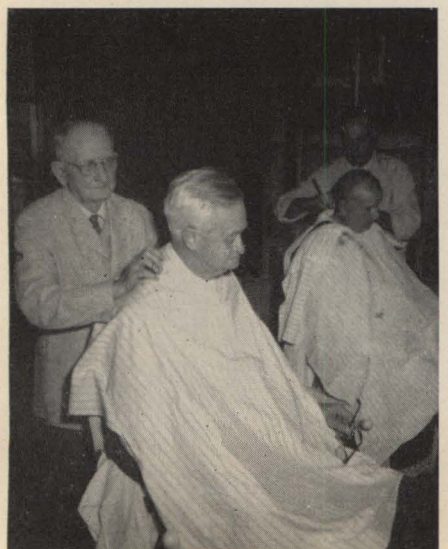
A goodly number of Bucks County residents can trace their ancestry to Christian and Barbara Meyer. Two of Christian's brothers emigrated to Pennsylvania also, Jacob and Hans. These three stalwart pioneer Mennonites are probably responsible for most of the Meyers and Moyers in this part of the country.

Rev. A. J. Fretz, who published a history of the Meyer-Moyer family in 1896, states that all of the Meyers who emigrated from Switzerland and Germany are in some way related whether they spelled the name Mayer, Meyer, Meyers, Meire, Mire, Miere, Myers or Moyer. The Moyer spelling was not known in Europe but appeared in America prior to 1720. In Switzerland their principal vocation was graziers as the name implies.

THEY were devout people and in this country their industry and honesty was rewarded with success in whatever they undertook.

Christian Meyer, Jr., was one of the founders of the Mennonite church of Salford in 1738. Jacob, who married Barbara Dirstein, was a farmer and minister of the Mennonite Church at Blooming Glen. Samuel Meyer, who was a farmer and elder in the Blooming Glen Church was such a popular and influential man that when he died February 6, 1847 he had a memorable funeral. There were 120 white-topped carriages in the procession, which was one and a half miles long. As was the custom of the day everyone was invited to return to the house for the "Trauer Mahl", the mourners' feast.

There were so many in the various Meyer and Moyer families with the same name that many were designated by nicknames. A Samuel Moyer who lived on Fly Creek was called "Fly Sam". A Rev. Abraham Moyer was known as "Big Abraham" and a Henry Moyer as "Hurrying Hen". One who was a weaver was called



Even Henry Freking, the Old Traveler, in the barber chair ready to be prettied up can't remember when Wellington Moyer started in the barber business on Main St., Quakertown, 65 years ago. Robert Ely, in the background, is trimming Henry Bauman's hair.

"Weaver John". Another Abraham Moyer was known as "Waterloo Abe". He was of the clan who emigrated to Canada from Bucks County and clung to old-country superstitions and beliefs. He planted by the signs, had the power to stop bleeding, cure bots in horses and effect many other cures. He could turn his hand to anything and do it well, shoe a horse, make a grain cradle or frame a house. Another Jacob Moyer, also of Canada, was known as "Tinker Jake" because he was clever with tools and was a carpenter and a cooper.

AFTER the Revolutionary War there was quite an exodus to Canada. It began in 1786 when a few Mennonites who wished to remain British subjects, and were also lured by the financial opportunities in Canada, journeyed to the Niagara District.

During the summer of 1799, Amos Albright, Abraham Meyer and Jacob Meyer went on foot from Hilltown in this county to the Niagara District. There they bought 1100 acres of land. On Indian Trail, now the Hamilton and Queenstown Road, they paid $2.50 an acre while the rest of the land near a lake was bought for $1.50 an acre. That autumn they moved their families to the far off wilderness country. Those in the party were Rev. Jacob Meyer, Dilman Meyer, Valentine Kratz, John Hunsberger, Abraham Hunsberger and Amos Albright. Each family had a four-horse team and a cow. So many Moyer families eventually gathered in this vicinity that the Mennonite meetinghouse was called Moyer's Church.

A year later another group from Bucks County moved to Canada. In this party were the families of Samuel Meyer, David Meyer, Abraham Huntsberger, Christian Huntsberger, Jacob Hausser and Daniel Hock. They were seven weeks on the way as the rough trails were muddy, the streams and mountains difficult to cross, and when they arrived in the new land they experienced a severe winter.

Samuel Meyer, who was one of the leaders of this third expedition, bought 200 acres of land from William Wiers. There was already a cabin there and a large burned-out oak stump which formed a mortar in which wheat was cracked and hominy pounded for food.

THE Meyers and Moyers have married into many well-known Bucks County families; the Fretz, Rittenhouse, Dirstein, Wismer, Stover, Stauffer, Kratz, Detweiler, Gehman, Oblinger, Funk, Reiff, Geisinger, Kulp, Shelly, Dyer, Beidler, Lear, Landis, Bruce, Diehl and others.

In the colonial times life centered around the home and the church. Farmers raised flax and the women wove cloth and made the clothing. Soap, butter, cheese and apple butter were all homemade. At auction sales at the old homes up-county these articles of another era are still brought out from the big attics, flax wheels, wool wheels, great copper apple butter kettles.

Children were a real asset to a family in those days and many a Moyer boasted ten to fifteen youngsters. It was quite a sight to see the six granddaughters of Fronica Meyer at their spinning. Fronica married Abraham Wismer, and they lived on the old Wismer homestead in Bedminster Township. It was Abraham who, with Martin Lowry, buried Moses Doan, famous outlaw, after he had been shot to death on the adjoining farm. Fronica's married son Samuel had five spinning wheels each operated by a demure young maiden while the sixth daughter did the reeling.

SOME years ago it was estimated the number of Meyers and Moyers had reached 12,000. In 1915 a family reunion was held in the park in Perkasie. 1,000 members of the family attended. Wellington Moyer of Quakertown says he was never able to go to the reunions as they were always held on Saturday. He has been a barber in his own shop on Main St. for 65 years. Saturday was his busiest day. At 82 years of age he is still busy in the little shop, assisted by his associate, 71-year-old Robert Ely, who has had only 40 years experience.

As present space does not permit the full story of the Moyers we will be obliged to continue the history of the family at a later date, including the descendants of Christian's brothers, Hans and Jacob. To this end we would appreciate any information, old-time stories and pictures of this large and interesting family from any of our readers.

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With deepest regret we learned that Wellington Moyer died suddenly, Nov. 19th, while at work in his shop. Our picture of him was taken just the Wednesday before.

HOLIDAY IN THE COUNTY

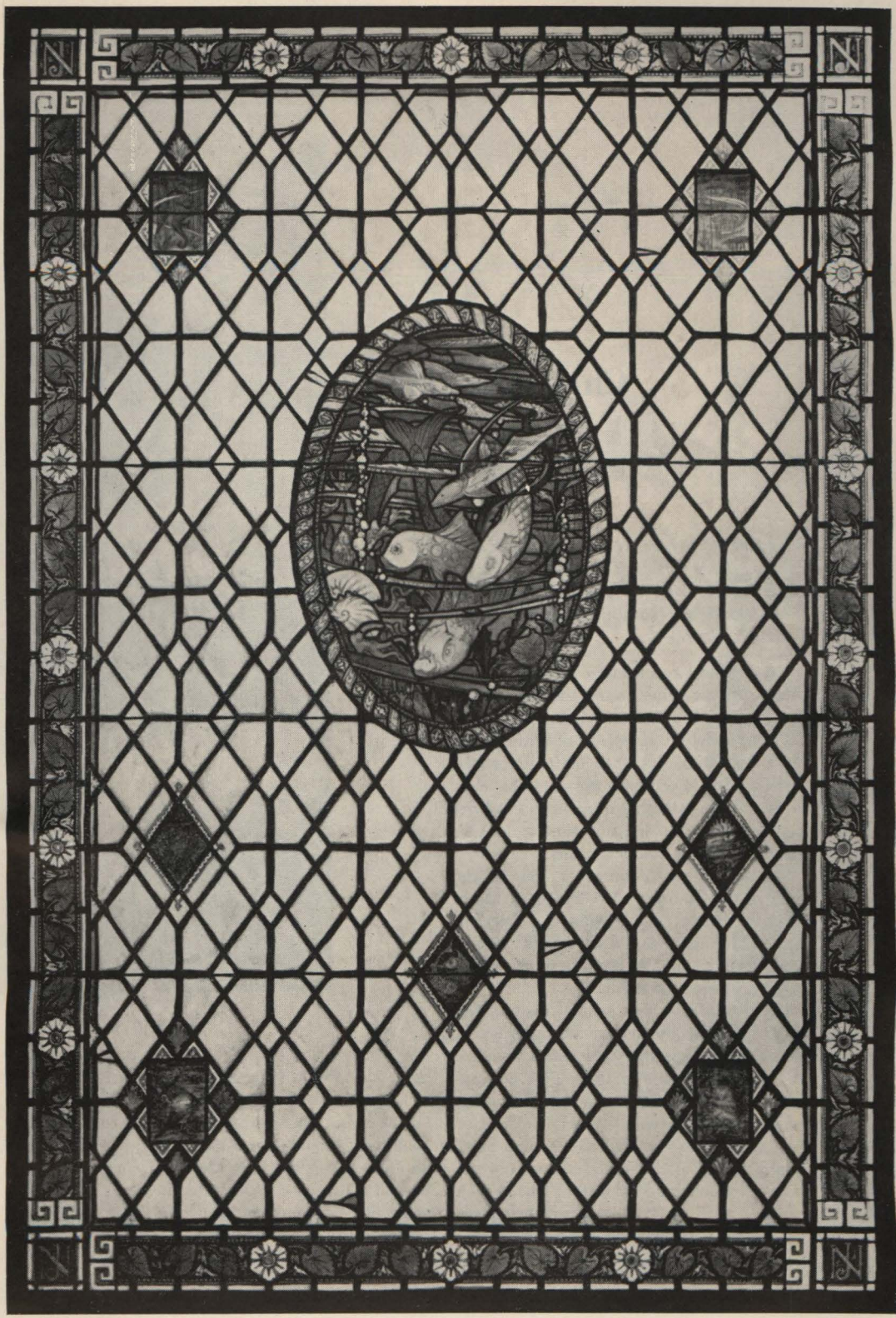
an artists' portfolio

Much of Bucks County's latter-day fame rests on the shoulders of the many artists who have come here to live and work, inspired by the beauty of their surroundings and the gentle and friendly spiritual climate of the County.

It seemed to us that many of these artists might have a special feeling about the holiday season, and so we invited a number of them to choose from among their works anything which they felt would be appropriate to convey their thoughts about this time of the year. A number of them also responded to our invitation to put Christmas into words.

Here then in our holiday portfolio our readers will find the season's greetings and good wishes of these artists and the many more they stand for, whose works, although not shown here, are equally a part of the life of the County.

Stained glass was a medium in which the late George Sotter excelled. Opposite is a panel of his in a window in the Trenton Museum of Natural History



Christmas Time

by Walter E. Baum

We are happy to have this excerpt from Walter Emerson Baum's book "Two Hundred Years" which he has sent us along with the fine "Christmas-Time" painting owned by Souderton High School.

"My earliest recollection associates itself with Christmastime, and, too, December in my household is a month for birthdays . . . The Yuletide, its weeks of anticipation and preparation, its flush of holidays, the putting aside of ordinary pursuits, its color, cheer and the assembly of plenty for a brief spell—all leave an imprint that cannot be erased by duller, sadder seasons.

If I should go to the other ends of the earth my memories of Christmas would conjure a picture of a village steeped in snow. The night would be star-lit; lamps would gleam, maybe weakly but, withal warmly, in the blue night.

There would be few people afoot in the streets but I could picture the interiors of houses lighted sparingly. I could visualize the living room where the major occupations of the home were carried on—mending, knitting, children with school books after the supper table was cleared—A man must be hard indeed if the Yuletide does not get under his skin sooner or later. I have seen men plod with rarely a smile on their faces and suddenly in the spell of Christmastime unbend to become human in spirit as well as in deed."

This was written nearly twenty years ago; but the Christmas story has grown richer each year in the passing years.

The hopes that were born in a manger—that men should understand and love one another—seem brighter than ever in spite of cold confusions in our present day. The spirit of Christmas will prevail since it is a primary instinct. Children everywhere—even behind the rigid curtains erected to curb humane instincts—laugh, romp and play and are merry. Somewhere on the

way to making the grade in competition for a livelihood they become hardened, but even so none can ever quite still the old urge to be at peace with his fellows.

In America where each year it is becoming less difficult to make a decent, fulsome living the spirit of good fellowship may become a world gospel. Indeed we, who want only that peace and plenty be shared in by all the peoples of the world, can well be missionaries of good will when in the fine season we wish each other a Merry Christmas.

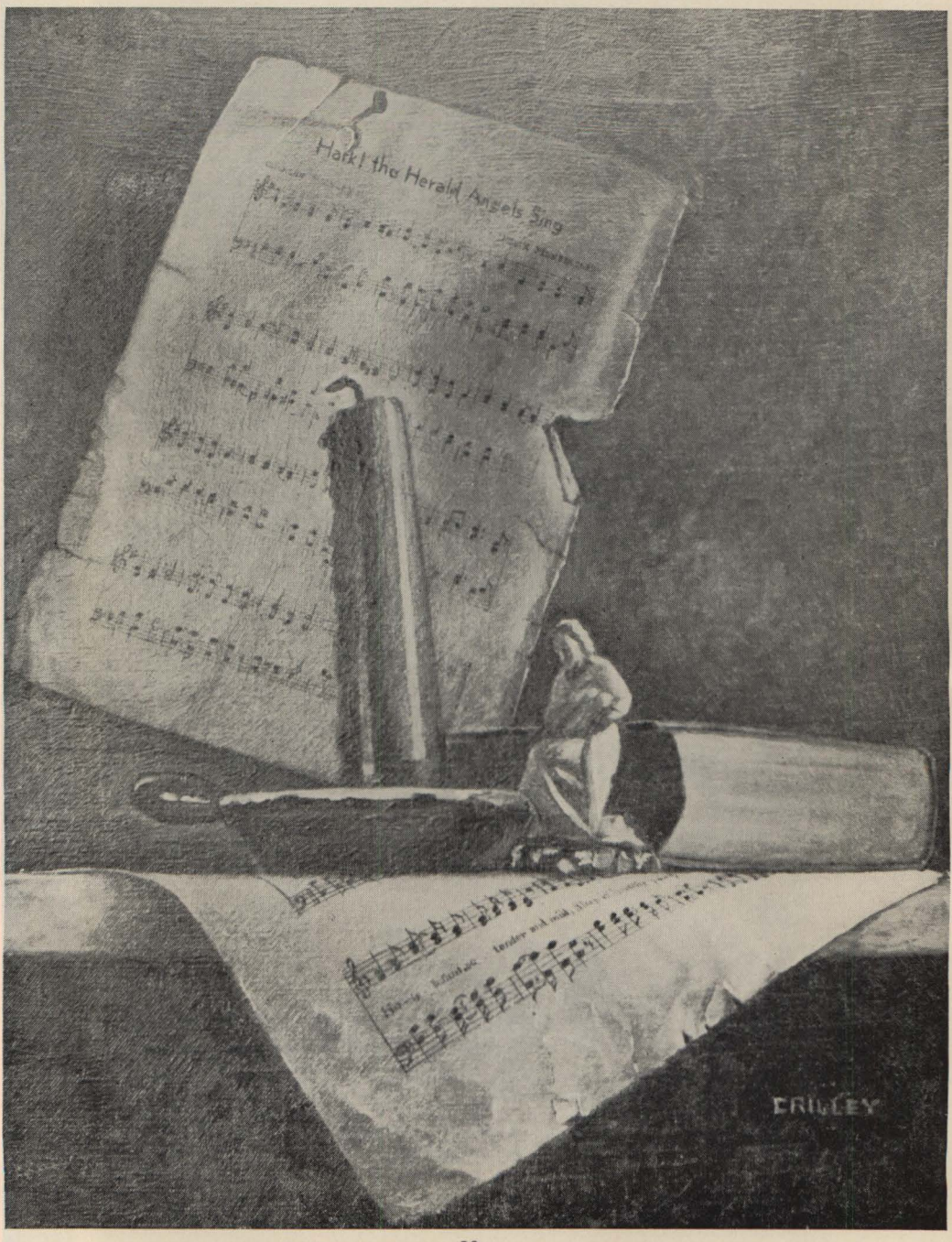
I still recall early memories as the "good old days" but how can they ever compare with the richness of the present which is the birthright of my grandchildren and all the children in our good land of plenty.

Yes the spirit of Christmas is paying us wonderful dividends. Perhaps they had their capital beginnings in the old villages steeped in snow.

A Christmas Carol

by Joseph Crilley

Carols and candles are ever a happy expression of Christmas and here Joseph Crilley illuminates the music with the soft light of a taper.



Christmas Shoppers

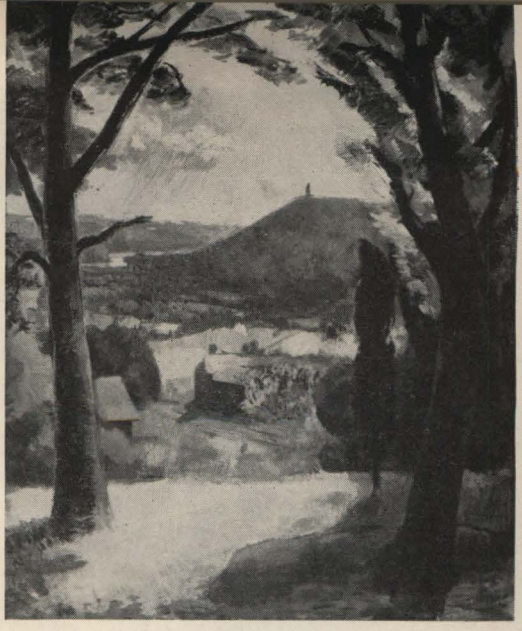
by Charles Ward

Charles Ward of Carversville, master painter, always puts great feeling and warmth of heart into his works. And there's an added touch of whimsey, here, in his portrayal of Christmas shoppers homeward-bound.

The Light in the Stable

by George W. Sotter

This beautiful painting with moonlight striking on the stable and the big old Buttonwood Tree reaching up to the stars is owned by Dr. Thomas of York, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Sotter has found us these lines to go with the painting: "The King of Peace, born in a stable at Bethlehem, is magnified above all the kings of the earth."



Toward the Tower

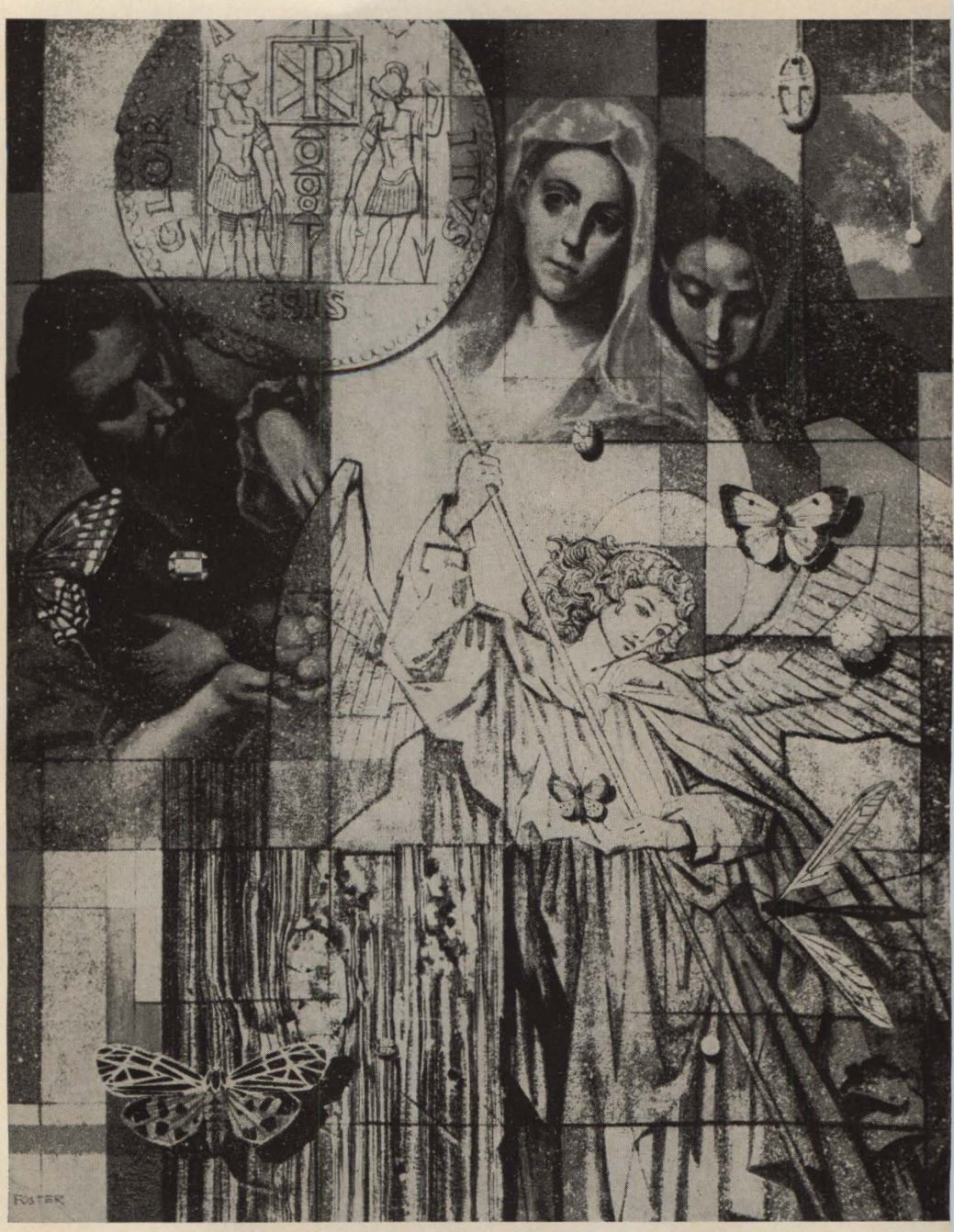
by Robert Hogue

This tree-framed view looks out across the valley to Bowman's Hill Tower where the Christmas Star shines bright throughout the Holiday season.

No tinsel here, no shiny ornaments, no Santa Claus—with its wide sweep of moon-touched sky and its great, ungarnished tree, this painting by John Folinsbee, which was awarded the Century Club Medal in 1951, exemplifies the Spirit of Christmas.

Moonlight

by John Folinsbee



Birthday

by John Foster

In this painting John Foster has used the heads in El Greco's famous Holy Family as part of his neo-objective Christmas symbols design.

"What do I think of Christmas? Sometimes 'yes' and sometimes 'no'. Christmas I like as a symbol of cheer and good fellowship, of bright lights and festive gaiety, of love and goodwill. Christmas I do not like as a commercial product to boost sales and the mad grasping it must employ."

Madonna of Peace

by Clarence Carter

The Day Before Christmas *by K. R. Nunamaker*

The kind of day when old-timers used to bundle up and lash gunny-sacks around their shoes and plod through the snow to Grandmother's to help trim the tree.

Neighbors on the Canal

by M. Elizabeth Price

" 'The canal is frozen'—welcome news to skaters! Long ago the River froze solid enough for two-horse teams to cross and the canal was the high-way to New Hope; now, if it is 'safe' for short periods, hockey sticks appear and the voices of gay young people come through the night."

Ferry House Road

Edward W. Redfield

Edward W. Redfield's picture is a nostalgic one of the days of wagons and sleighs and wood fires, of roads heaped with sparkling snow.

Christmas on the Lawn

by John Sharp

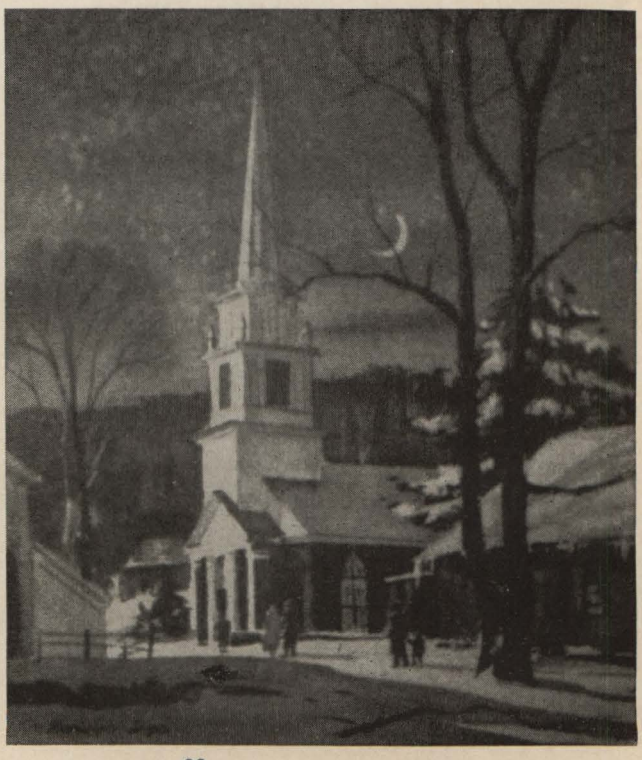
Even though the folks are inside the house, gathered around the blazing Yule log making merry, it's not bad to be outside in the snow at Christmas if you are among friends.

Skating on the Pond

by Harry Leith-Ross

Many of Harry Leith-Ross' paintings are made near his home in the shadow of Jericho Mountain. Here is the essence of holiday joy, swift skaters, snow-bordered pond and a wintry sky that threatens snow.

Ranulph Bye of Holicong is one of the successful younger artists of the valley. His white-spired church in a snowy setting bespeaks Christmas carols and chimes in celebration of Christ's birthday



Village Church

by Ranulph Bye

Sleighride

by Paul Crosthwaite

This winter view of Dr. Albie's home fairly sings out Christmas cheer. The children with the Sicilian donkey may well be going after a nice big Yule log. It is painted on a tole tray, but, instead of its being simply a decorated tray, it turns out to be a fine arts painting graciously framed.

Angel

by Faye Badura

Angels seem to tie in with Christmas even though we are not quite certain that the one in Faye Badura's fine painting is a Herald Angel. It seems that he's dropped in to point towards the Church steeple. Perhaps he hears the bells pealing!

Winter Wren

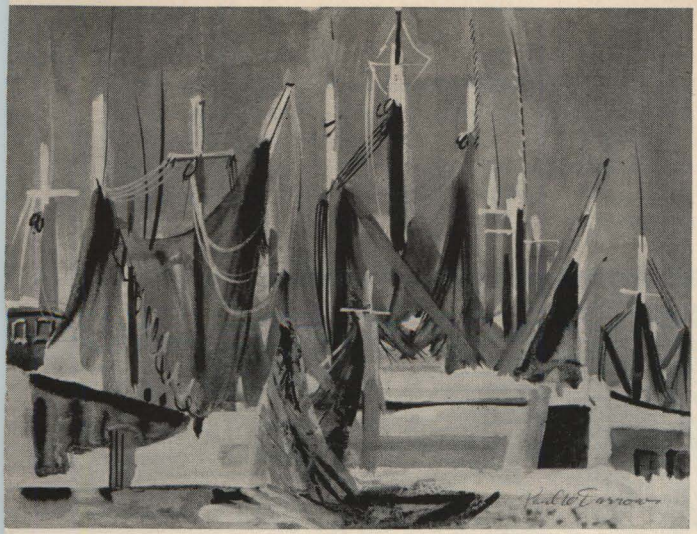
by Charles Child

Along with this enchanting painting, Charles Child of Lumberville has sent a note saying: "Here is what I feel about Christmas."

"Christmas is not Christmas trees. Christmas is not Macy's windows, not sleighbells, not Santa Claus, not snow,—not even bleached cornflakes on Hollywood Boulevard. Christmas, relieved of its overburden, and the accretions of centuries, is simply the rebirth of Christ in each heart, from which spring the joy of gift-giving, the beauty of family and children, and the truth of brotherhood.

One does not buy Christmas. In order to possess it, one must *live* Christmas, and each year re-live it. This can be done without money or possessions or honors of any kind. In this way it can come in its fullness to each soul as a recurrent blessing. Then one can add tinsel, turkeys, and the laughter of children as one decorates the naked tree, in order to make it more abundantly express the joy of universal love.

Everyday life can be boring and cruel as well as beautiful. At the very best it often falls into haphazard patterns. But once a year one can deliberately give over the often meaningless round of the usual or the indifferent, in order to rededicate one's self momentarily to the truth for which Christ stood—as fundamental as the animals in the Stable, or as Bethlehem's White Star—that we are all members one of another under God. If we tried to live in accordance with this principle, from the heart straight out, we could transform the world."



Shrimp Fleet

by Paul Darrow

"What does this have to do with Christmas? Well, the boats are packed in so tight that the masts and great nets make a solid pattern and almost suggest the forms of a grove of evergreens. And the real connection is that there is where I would like to be around Christmas when the winter winds start blowing in Bucks County."

Kurt Wiese, the artist beloved by children, lives near Frenchtown, N.J. He is probably best known as an illustrator of children's books. These sheep, coming in from the snowy field to seek shelter in their fold, betoken the spirit of Christmas time.

Sheep at Mt. Airy

by Kurt Wiese

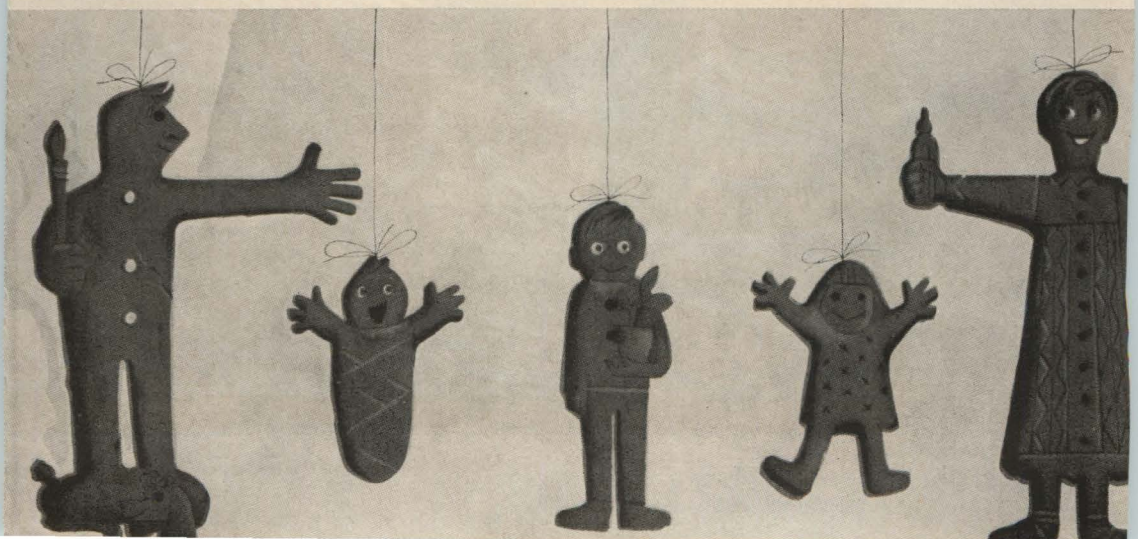
The Bell

by Charles Hargens

"The Christian world has set aside each year a period of time for the veneration and celebration of the Festival in memory of the birth of Christ. It is a period of thanksgiving for the countless privileges and bounties enjoyed by mankind which by His supreme example of sacrifice and service has brought such beauty into our lives."

FREDERICK SIEBEL of Solebury,
noted illustrator and cover artist
has sent us these Christmas drawings
and a word about Christmas!

"Roast goose, with sparkling Burgundy,
squealing pigs made into sausage
on a farm in Europe, four children to
cheer up, furniture to be assembled,
tree decorated, Christmas card to the
printer---again not in time, Mother coming,
money going, eggnog for twenty-six,
car is stuck, chains are lost,
money going, relations coming, no time
for work and job is due---what does
Christmas mean to you?"



Victory at Christmas

"When the illustrious part which your Excellency has borne in the long and arduous contest becomes a matter of history, fame will gather your brightest laurels from the banks of the Delaware, rather than those of the Chesapeake."

Lord Cornwallis to General Washington

IF ghosts of the departed do return to scenes of their mortal achievements, at Christmas time some really illustrious ones must look over the shoulders of those of the more than 400,000 visitors who enter the little Methodist church at Washington Crossing to gaze in awe at the mammoth painting by Emanuel Leutze. It commemorates one of the most daring and decisive feats in history, when Washington's ragged army of little more than two thousand men crossed the Delaware River in sleet and snow through churning ice cakes on Christmas Night, 1776. After the gruelling march to Trenton, it took just one hour from the time the first shot was fired on the surprised Hessian outposts, huddled over their Christmas campfires, to put victory into Washington's hands.

This majestic painting portrays the artist's conception of a soul-stirring event, and as such it thrills the busloads of children who are brought to see it. One little boy entered the church with his parents and sat down and gazed in rapt concentration at the picture. After a time his mother called to him, but he replied, never taking his eyes from the canvas, "I'm not ready to go yet." At last they had to coax him away from his absorbed interest. That episode in history will always be vivid to him because of the impressive realism of the painted scene. David Taylor, author of "Lights Across the Delaware", points out that in the original painting he could see the figure of Billy Lee, Washington's servant, who is difficult to detect in reproductions. But there he is, just in front of Washington, plying one of

Courtesy Metropolitan Museum of Art

The 100-year-old Methodist Church plays host to one of the most famous paintings in the country, "Washington Crossing the Delaware."

the oars. His face is partly hidden by his arm, but one sees his dark skin and gold hoop earings. The lad behind Washington, grasping an oar, is said to be James Monroe. He was but eighteen in 1776 and destined to become President. It is said Leutze used Washington's diary as his guide for the painting.

REVEREND Harold J. Hallam, pastor of the church, says the painting draws a few people to his congregation but most of them come at a time when services are not held. The church is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

The greatest number of people visit the shrine during the summer months, although groups, particularly numerous DAR chapters, hold meetings there. Often on a holiday the visitors will number as many as a hundred, from all over the world.

On February 22, 1952, the painting arrived on loan from the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art to the very spot which it depicts. At that time three anniversaries were celebrated. It was just 220 years since the birth of Washington; it was 175 years since the decisive victory, and it was 100 years since Emanuel Leutze completed the huge canvas of 262 square feet which the United States Congress had commissioned him to paint for the rotunda of the Capitol. It was brought to the simple white church on the banks of the Delaware so that visitors to the park might see it in all its original beauty.

Happily, it will be here another year, until February 1957, protected by a round-the-clock guard of three men: Lloyd R. Wilson of Newtown, Howard Dahms of Levittown and John Allinson of Newtown. The canvas, 21 by 12 feet, nearly covers one wall and is valued at $50,000.

THE picture is the second one Leutze painted. When the first one was nearly completed, a fire in his studio in Dusseldorf scorched the canvas, and the artist, feeling he could not send to America a damaged canvas, painted a second picture. On its completion in 1852, the capricious congress refused it. However, Marshall O. Roberts of New York bought it and when it was exhibited at New York's Metropolitan Fair in 1864, it attracted enthusiastic attention. John S. Kennedy, a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum, purchased the painting in 1897 and gave it to the museum. The first painting was exhibited in Germany, won a gold medal and was purchased by the German government. It was destroyed by bombs in 1942.

Critics have had much fault to find with the painting. Historically, there are some errors. The flag back of Washington was not adopted by Congress until June 1777. Some say the Delaware has never known such large cakes of ice, but after the flood of March, 1936, ice cakes were left along the river bank as large as diminutive houses and remains of some were still to be found in sheltered spots as late as June.

A few hundred yards to the north of the church a boulder marks the point of embarkation, scene of Leutze's painting. The same small island that gave scant shelter to the boats is still there, and the old inn that served McKonkey's ferry.

After dusk, off to the north, the Christmas star shines out from Bowman's Hill where Washington's lookouts commanded a sweeping view of the whole valley to Trenton. A visit to see the painting makes an ideal Christmas pilgrimage for the whole family.

HAD George Washington had any time to spare from his campaign through this area, there is little doubt that he would have been seen riding to hounds over the same countryside now covered by the Huntingdon Valley Hunt. Foxhunting is one of our oldest sports, dating from colonial days, and Washington himself was a keen foxhunter. He kept his own pack of foxhounds at Mount Vernon, where many of his friends and neighbors hunted with him regularly, and his diary contains many accounts of his days with hounds, with notations as to the number of foxes found, comments on the behavior of individual hounds, and the names of friends who were with him in the field; in fact, his diary is very largely the diary of a foxhunter.

Col. Henry D. Paxson in 1895 gave us a vivid description of hunting in the county at the turn of the nineteenth century: ". .Here Samuel Large pursued his occupation as an agriculturist, but what made him famous was his skill as a foxhunter. His appointments for the chase were the best, and his well trained hounds and fleet steed that knew no fence as a barrier, won the admiration of all beholders. It was a gala day on the hunt when Large with his aids, the Elys and Byes, gave chase. Foxes were then abundant and their runways covered a large territory of wooded tracts. Buckingham and Solebury mountains, Bowman's hill and Jericho mountain were favor-

Alan Brady Photo

In the "Pink"

Foxhunting in the County

The traditional blessing of the hounds before the hunt held at Indian Council Rock, the farm of Mrs. George Tyler

able haunts of sly Reynard, and however hotly pursued seldom failed to cover his retreat. Even in this day an occasional fox is seen on the mountain, but the baying of the hounds and the horn's clear note on moonlight nights are no longer heard in the valley. ."

SOMEONE must have spent considerable time mulling over the Colonel's words, for in answer to his plaintive nostalgia the Huntingdon Valley Hunt was incorporated in 1914, and has been running continuously since, with the exception of the war years. Third largest hunt in Pennsylvania, which leads the country with twenty-one registered hunts, the horsemen of Huntingdon Valley are out an average of a hundred times a season, which runs from August 20th to March 31st, and over their thirty-five years of hunting have run and killed hundreds of foxes, both red and gray.

The Hunt has a membership of one hundred and twenty-five at present, most of whom are residents and landowners in Bucks County, although some of the hunters come from as far as New York or Philadelphia. The countryside hunted is approximately fifteen by twenty miles, and many landowners and friends have freely granted permission to use their land; this permission involves the use of a lane, headland or trail for riders to get through without going on farmland, and post-and-rail or chicken-

Here we see the Hunt Team composed of the Master of Foxhounds, H. Douglas Paxson, the Joint Master, Adele Paxson, and Allen King, Whipper-in

coop jumps are placed where fences are encountered. Although some few hard-bitten souls insist on thinking of the hounds and riders as disorderly disturbers of their property, the fact that the great majority of the landowners have welcomed the Hunt, and the cordial relationships existing with it, are an obvious tribute to the fine field discipline and training of the hounds and the hunters both.

Credit and responsibility for this go to the Master of Foxhounds, who is the operational head of the Hunt in all its details: the pack, the routes, the horses, the hunters. For twenty-five years after its founding, this office was held in the Huntingdon Valley Hunt by Wharton Sinkler, succeeded in 1945 by H. Douglas Paxson of Holicong, grandson of that same Paxson who decried the decline of the hunt in 1895; Paxson efforts to maintain the flagging tradition received a further boost this year in the naming of Mr. Paxson's wife Adele to the position of Joint Master.

The average spectator of a hunt might be inclined to think that there is an undue and overly punctilious observance of tradition and ceremony, without realizing that behind the forms and procedures there are very valid considerations of two basic principles, safety and consideration. Take the red jacket, or "pink", for instance; it's not a popinjay instinct on the part of the wearer that makes him wear a bright red jacket, but the simple need of being readily visible through dense growths of trees and foliage. Incidentally, pinks are not worn by just any hunter; permission to wear them comes from the Master only after the hunter has demonstrated the proper degree of proficiency at the sport. Since the field consists of riders all the way from ten to seventy years of age, safety is an important factor in the Master's responsibility; strict insistence on proper care of tack and horses is hardly unreasonable. The rights of way of the Hunt extending over three hundred square miles, a reputation for organized and considerate passage through farmers' fields and over landowners' fences becomes a must, not just an idle whim.

In addition to the field officers, the Master, the Huntsman, who has charge of the hounds in the field, and the Whippers-in, the Huntingdon Valley Hunt as a corporation has the normal complement of corporate officials, president, vice-president, etc. All property is owned by the Hunt, not by the individual members, who pay dues and contributions to support it. Membership is open to anyone of good character, and the Hunt is particularly pleased with its sizable number of young hunters.

PRIDE of the Huntingdon Valley is its pack, which consists of twelve couple, to use the huntsman's term for "pair", of hounds. These are American foxhounds of the type known as Penn-Marydel, which

have been hunted in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland for several hundred years. Great care has been taken in the breeding of these hounds, and at the National Hound Show held at Bryn Mawr last September, Huntingdon Valley Hunt was the winner of both the Show Championship and the Pack Class. These hounds have great nose, stamina, and drive, and deep cry which can be heard over long distances, an essential in our large woodland covers. Much has been written about the music of a pack of hounds in full cry, but it's almost impossible to appreciate that peculiarly thrilling sound until you've actually heard it.

WHAT about fox hunting itself? The true sport is to follow a pack of hounds as they discover a wild fox in his native environment and follow him by scent across many miles of country he knows well until they either kill him or put him to earth in one of many dens whose location he knows well. The kill, contrary to widespread belief, is not at all the point of the sport; that lies in the enjoyment of a good cross-country ride, the pleasure of watching and hearing a good pack of hounds at work, the company of fellow-hunters, and the zest of the chase. As to the fox, he is hardly the poor confused and persecuted creature fleeing in panic; a sly, wily animal, he knows the country, wind, scent and many other factors by instinct and experience and brings an element of almost human intelligence to the game. Some hunts are "drop hunts", that is, the fox is kept in captivity and released, weakened and disoriented, for the chase, but the Masters of Foxhounds Association frowns on so unsportsmanlike a practice, as of course does the Huntingdon Valley Hunt.

A typical day's hunting? The Hunt meets on a farm near Cottageville, and at the Master's signal, the "field" of riders and the pack move off. The hounds are "cast" at likely covers until finally, near the river, a strike hound speaks, announcing that he is on the line of a fox. With a crescendo of music the pack courses the fox around the covert three times until he slips out of it, headed for Pineville. Hounds in full cry pursue him as he runs along a churchyard wall, swims downstream and circles in a manured field to foil the scent. Casting themselves in a large circle, the hounds find the line again, and after a mile of hard running, chop their quarry down. The huntsman blows them in to the kill, the Master presents the fox's head to the first man in at the kill and the brush to the first lady. With a long note on his horn, the huntsman announces the end of the day, the hounds are jogged along the road to their kennels near Gardenville, and the hunters head home to dream of the next day's hunting.

Alan Brady Photo

The Hill of Vision

Homesteading in the County

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Chester E. Lampe. Mrs. Lampe is the third woman to be president of the Homesteaders. Her lovely and livable home was built around an old stone barn, the original walls forming part of the living room and patio.

Mrs. Henry Stewart, art teacher at the Museum School of Art and the Moore Institute, modern as the abstracts in her garden, discarded every stick of furniture she and her husband owned when they moved into their colorful contemporary home four years ago.

Alan Brady Photo

Alan Brady Photo

MOST experiments begin in the brain of a scientist and are first carried out in a test-tube in a laboratory where there is the sound of hissing and bubbling as other researchers measure and discard various ingredients which may or may not make for better living.

Here in the County, only twenty miles from the center of Philadelphia, an experiment in human relationships began some fifteen years ago. It began not in a test-tube but on two hundred and forty acres of farmland located near Southampton where Gravel and Street Roads meet. The idea was born in the brains of Herbert and Georgia Bergstrom, Wayne and Marian Dockhorn, Joseph and Helen Diano, Ray and Babette Newton, Edward and Jane Potts, and Raymond and Marian Wilson. These apartment house dwellers were enduring one of Philadelphia's particularly loathsome summers.

Individually they could afford nothing better than homes cheek by jowl in some suburban development. Collectively they could buy a piece of ground and build their own houses where picture windows would not face other picture windows. These couples spent all their spare time scouring the countryside looking for a suitable tract of land which they finally found, — but what land it was! Rains had washed away the top soil, erosion had set in, streams were choked. The woods were filled with dead trees, the bramble head-high and the poison ivy had been flourishing for years. Honeysuckle grown wild had strangled the struggling young trees. But it was land and cheap, only $75 an acre.

HOW they worked, those men and women, surveying for home sites, locating and building the roads, hacking away at the wilderness. As they worked, they planned. They thought of a name, Bryn Gweled, Welsh for "Hill of Vision". Eighty acres were to be held forever as woodland, the remaining ground to be divided into building plots of one and one-half to two acres.

At the present time there are fifty-eight families with separate homes and over one hundred children under the age of sixteen. The land itself belongs to all the members, the houses to the people who have built them. Each family pays an assessment fee of about eleven dollars a month to take care of taxes, general maintenance, the community house and the swimming pool.

There are no ugly service poles to mar the magnificent views which the members have from their windows. The original group took care of that problem. They made a deal with the utility companies and with a ditch-digger, picks and shovels dug trenches for the wires and when the wires were laid, they shoveled in the dirt. Blistered hands and aching backs were forgotten when the current was turned on and there were no wires or poles to distort their view of the distant rolling hills.

THE original families leaned toward the typical Pennsylvania Dutch farmhouses, but Paul Beidler, Robert Bishop and Walter Robinson, architects, well imbued with the modern idea that a house should fit the needs of its owners, convinced the homesteaders that contemporary houses would be more adaptable to their requirements, their pocketbooks and the contours of the land. The majority of the homes have slanting or flat roofs with wide overhanging eaves to bring warmth into the rooms in winter and to shade them in the summer. The use of glass is extensive and the picture windows frame the fields, woods and hills and each house has the maximum of privacy.

This is not a real estate development, in case you are planning to jump in your car and go to the Hill of Vision to buy one of the few remaining plots of ground. There are rules and regulations. The process of becoming a member of Bryn Gweled is a long one—three to six months.

AN application in considerable detail must be filled out and the first question is whether the applicant is willing to live in a community where his neighbor may be of any race or creed and where all living must be shared,—the outdoor picnics, the indoor dancing, swimming, listening to music and managing the community itself. The next is the responsibility to the homesteads. Each man is asked to give one Saturday a month for work on community projects,—the roads, clearing property, general maintenance, cleaning the pool, being a life guard, weeding, planting trees and shrubbery. Each applicant, man and woman, must be willing to serve on the various committees, rotating on a yearly basis. The new families are really hand-picked because they must meet each member family on a social basis before their names are submitted to the full membership for voting. Four-fifths must agree before the new members are accepted.

The new neighbor may then select the area on which he wishes to build his home. The Plot Plans Committee looks over the plans, makes suggestions, makes sure certain regulations are understood. From then on the family is on its own. It may employ contractors or it may build its home from the ground up as some have done. The children have eighty acres in which to roam, streams to dam up. They can build huts for their club meetings and they can camp out overnight. They can have pets—cats, dogs, hamsters, rabbits. The neighbors won't care because their children have pets too.

In addition to the community swimming pool, there are tennis courts, room for a soft-ball diamond and plenty of volunteer experts who see to it that the children learn to do these things and do them well.

THIS all sounds like Utopia, but it has taken fourteen years of planning, the use of open discussion and careful selection of members to bring it about. The membership includes people of varying cultural, religious and racial backgrounds within a wide range of ages. The original families were mostly Friends and they now number about twenty-five per cent. The occupations include a contractor, engineer, lawyer, businessman, editor, stained glass artist, tool designer, scientist, social worker, school teacher, carpenter and laborer. Their interests vary widely as do their incomes,

but they all have in common a desire to know that their neighbors, by whose children their own would inevitably be influenced, feel similarly on questions of human evaluation and tolerance of the opinions of others.

There is no "country club" atmosphere on the Hill of Vision and life tends to simplification rather than over-indulgence. There has been and there will always be talk about the homesteaders. They have been accused of being almost everything except what they really are, — a group of people who have found it possible to live together in a community and provide for themselves and their children a feeling of belonging and security. While they treasure their privacy, they do not shun the people who are attracted there by the shaded winding drives or the unusual homes and each family takes a turn at answering questions with a sign "Information Center" on their lawns.

THE original homesteaders lived a more communal life than the families do now. They raised their own vegetables, poultry and pigs. They had steers butchered and shared the meat. They bought staples in quantity and fruits from the farmers by the bushel, sharing in canning and preserving. They had sewing and window washing bees. As the homes were paid for and the country went into its era of prosperity which brought with it increased individual incomes, there was less need to live economically. However, if times should change, these people can weather an economic storm far better than most. They own their own land, most of them are free from mortgages and they can supplement their income by raising most of their own food on land which they have nursed back into a state of fertility. It is a community where the people live so closely and understandingly together that a helping hand would be held out to any member financially embarrassed.

IN 1946, Frederick G. Brownell wrote an article for the *American Magazine* called "Community Builders" based on the homesteaders. At that time Ray Newton said, "We don't even know whether the life here is going to appeal to our children once they've grown up. That's a problem they've got to work out for themselves. All we know is, it suits us." Twelve years later, the Hill of Vision is still satisfying the men and women who have made a way of life on its slopes and the children are reaching toward adulthood in an atmosphere of tolerance towards races and creeds which may prove to be the finest inheritance their parents could have handed on to them.

—Hazel M. Gover

Mrs. Edward Potts can see for miles around the country from her generous-sized terraces and huge picture windows. Like several of the other houses, the roof is flooded with water during the summer which lowers the temperature of the rooms by several degrees.

Alan Brady Photo

Man Behind

The panel at the left depicts the Raising of Lazarus. This window adorns Saint Martin's Episcopal Church in Providence, Rhode Island. The photograph shown is of the cartoon, or working drawing, from which the finished colored window is made.

the Window

Artist in conception, craftsman in execution

BUCKS COUNTY'S claim to art fame is based on having many fine artists living and working here. Valentine D'Ogries is one of the finest of them, a leading artist-craftsman of the entire country. From all over the country, people make pilgrimages to his studio just west of New Hope on Glass Mountain above Manchester Valley—a remodeled New Hope schoolhouse that stands out clearly in Joseph Pickett's painting *Manchester Valley* in the Modern Museum in New York City.

Today there's nothing stark and schoolish about the place. Like D'Ogries' two former homes in Bucks County—Myrtle Brook Manor, his first home up river, and the Villa Carynthia, the home he built down river, he has transformed this place into a castle. The entrance, through an enclosed sun-hall bright with blooming hibiscus and tropical plants, leads into an enormous study. The walls are gay with original sketches in color of many of his windows, on a sculpture stand there's a portrait head he's been working on, an easel holds a painting on wood in the making—"Saint Peter," he tells us. "My father's patron Saint. I've already done my mother's, saint Ursula."

Carefully lighted from below, this painting hangs in the drawing-room on an end wall, and there are fine murals over the high shelves of another book-lined wall; suspended from the ceiling by crystal bead ropes like May-pole streamers, there's a delicate circular crystal-prism chandelier reflecting and dispersing the lights in the room. It's not wired for electricity, and the candles are obviously hand-dipped. I asked about this. "Yes, I designed the chandelier and had it made and since I make my own candles I liked it this way."

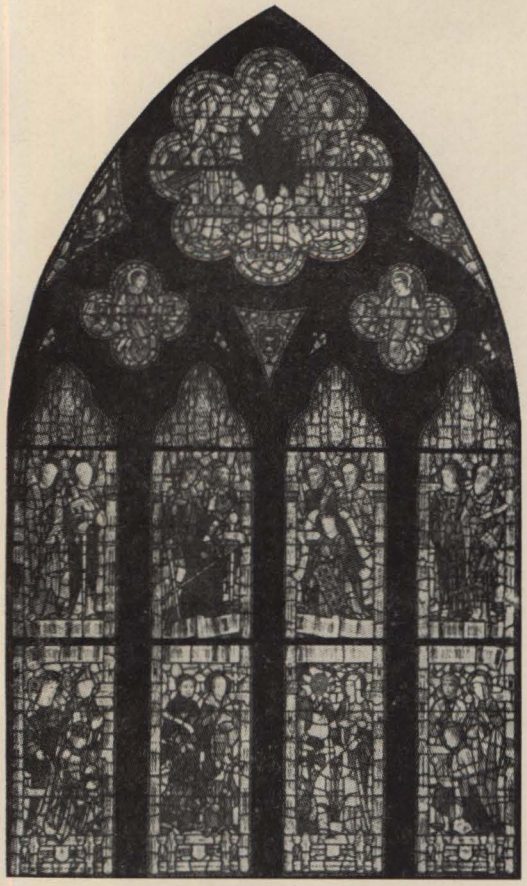
IT turns out that Val D'Ogries makes lots of things though he admits reluctantly to anything other than "candles and cakes," outside of his stained glass.

In the big studio workshop on the lower level of the house he makes the superb windows that grace many of the most beautiful churches in America. He is now working on all of the windows for Trenton's Trinity Cathedral.

Besides his fame in glass, D'Ogries is noted for his murals and frescoes and paintings on wood. Among these are his triptych *Madonna and Child* in St. John the Evangelist Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey, the seven-foot high *Crucifixion* painted on wood which hangs from the ceiling in St. George's Church, Chicago, and the frescoes and murals on the walls of the Hatfield Chapel in New Canaan, Connecticut.

WHEN he began his career as an artist, he wanted to be a sculptor. He studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, and taught modeling for a year at Carnegie Institute of Technology while he was a student there, but clay and stone lacked the color he wanted to work in and from 1914 to 1916 he studied oil painting at Carnegie Tech under the late George Sotter—later he was a pupil of Henry Wynd-Young in New York. In 1923 he began making glass.

Born in Carynthia, Austria, D'Ogries graduated as an engineer from the Techni-



The historical "Te Deum" Window in the west end of Saint John's Church, Massena, New York. The four lower panels provide an interesting example of D'Ogries' technique in combining the contemporary with the traditional, showing present-day representatives of the four races.

cal College of Klagenfurt. He came to this country in 1908, and moved from New York to Bucks County in 1924. He has never returned to Europe. He keeps thinking he will make the trip, but he is always too busy with commitments, and he has more offers of commissions ahead than he can possibly accept.

Some of them, in fact, most of them, he hates to refuse, for he is an artist who truly loves the work he is doing. Deeply interested in all phases of his work, his mind works like a steel trap, and he has a quick turn of wit. I heard a choice bit of him in Washington, D. C., during the past war. A new church building was planned and D'Ogries' fame in stained glass sent the church committee to New Hope to ask him to do the windows. He had to turn it down as he was already working on Trinity Cathedral. But, before the men left, he asked them who the architect was. When they told him, he chuckled. "You'll have to watch out for that fellow," he said. "He's such a Gothicist, if you have any rest-rooms in the building, he'll put in Gothic plumbing."

In New York he worked in Henry Wynd-Young's studio for eight years and it was while he was painting murals and altar-pieces for the firm that he got his own first big job in stained glass—sixteen twenty-four foot windows for the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Chicago which took about seven years to complete.

In addition to doing all of the many new windows in the Trenton Cathedral, Mr. D'Ogries has restored the old windows from the Academy Street Cathedral. Notable among the windows he has completed so far, is a grouping of three in one section, making a triple window. The center is in honor of The Very Reverend Dean Adams, the one at the left is in memory of The Right Reverend Bishop Matthews, and, at the right, a window in memory of Ferdinand W. Roebling, Jr. A Florence Nightingale window will be next in the working in the studio, and a most colorful St. Hilda of Whitby window has just been finished.

VAL showed me the rest of the house: on the lower level, the hallway divides the kitchen—a man-sized man's kitchen

perfectly designed—and the great 28 by 18 foot dining-hall, that are under the upper level bedrooms, from the big studio workroom and the glass-firing room where the electric kiln now replaced the original kerosene kiln. The hall leads out to a porch with iron grilled gates and beautifully landscaped gardens with three pools, garden sculpture and one especially fine bronze *Glorious Victory* by the French sculptor Mercear.

Mr. D'Ogries is most generous in explaining and demonstrating the steps that go into the making of stained glass windows; the small-sized sketch in color, the actual window-sized charcoal working drawing made in duplicate, one to be cut into pattern pieces, the other used to check the glass cut by the patterns to use under the glass on the tracing table where the design is painted on in enamel, and then to be used again for assembling the pieces in the grooved lead that is fitted around them and soldered after the painted pieces have been fired at 1000 degrees.

He tried to make it all look simple—to me it still is sheer magic and, to top off the aura of wizardry, a gay plumed parrot was presiding over the studio, vying in color with the beautiful shades and tones of the long racks filled with sheets of colored glass. The windows are made in sections with bars between to carry the weight.

In his historical "Te Deum" window in Saint John's Church, Massena, New York, he represents all the earth with the four races: St. Louis of France, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, George Washington Carver, and Eleazar Williams, who lived with the Indians.

In this, as in all of his windows, there is great originality but no entire departure from the traditional in stained glass. In designing his windows for any church. he modifies existing types rather than creating new ones, his style conforming to whatever architectural period the church design is based on. The delicate traceries in his windows, the radiant color tones, the inspiration in design and the very spirit he puts into their making all contribute to Valentine D'Ogries' position as one of the foremost artists in the field of stained glass today.

—*Amidee Fargis*

This lovely trypitch, of which the center panel is shown, hangs over the altar in the Chapel of Our Lady in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, in New Brunswick, N. J. It is done on wood, after the early Italian manner, in oil on gold leaf.

A CHRISTMAS TRUE STORY

"Welcome" is one of those words which typify the spirit and tradition of our county. With this in mind, we asked Pearl S. Buck to tell our readers something about Welcome House, a project which has taken much of her time and interest.

Miss Buck, well-known as the first and only American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, is less well-known in private life as Mrs. Richard Walsh of Dublin here in the county, where she has lived for many years.

THIS CHRISTMAS eight years and four months ago a special part of Bucks County came into being, Welcome House. It began with the birth of a baby, born in America of an Asian father and an American mother. Like another baby hundreds of years ago in the town of Bethlehem, he had nowhere to lay his head. Oh, the American baby had a crib, a transient resting place, in a child adoption agency, but he had no home until by a strange and accidental chance, he was brought to our Bucks County, and there found home and warm welcoming parents and friends. Today he goes to public school and on Sundays to church with his family, a tall straight lad with frank dark eyes and a fearless gentle manner.

The child has no idea of what his birth has meant. He does not know that because one night at Christmas, years ago, he came to Bucks County in someone's arms, many little children have come here from all over the United States to find parents and home. He does not know that in Bucks County Asia has come to have meaning for many of us, because these children, who carry some of the blood of Asia in their veins, are all American, too. They are full citizens of the United States and they have come to Welcome House from twenty-nine different states to be loved and adopted, and with their adoptive parents to go out again, many of them, to states as far away as Kansas and California.

These children are Americans by birth. I repeat the fact for though Welcome House has been here in our county for many years, I still find people who think the children come to us from foreign countries. No, they are American children. Some people even ask why we do not work for "American" children, meaning "white" children. Again I say, all our children are American, and many American children are not white. It used to be only the "white" children, however, who had many adoptive parents wanting them, far more parents than children. The children with Asian or part-Asian ancestry then were not considered adoptable. Many agencies would not even receive them because, they said, parents could not be found for them. They were, the agencies said, the "number one adoption problem".

But the Asian or part-Asian American child is no longer a problem. Welcome House has proved that. Today, eight years

and four months after the birth of the baby who inspired Welcome House we know that no American child with Asian ancestry is unadoptable. We know because today we have the same fortunate problem in Welcome House that other adoptive agencies have. We have more parents than there are babies. We could place many more babies than we have. Therefore our next task—no, privilege—is to go out and find the babies wherever they are in the United States in orphanages, institutions and agencies. I hope that some day not too far off the work of Welcome House will be done, when no child will be called unadoptable because of race or religion, but considered simply a child, not the property of any group, and certainly not a problem.

WHAT is Welcome House today? It is first of all a child adoption agency, the only private adoption agency in Bucks County. It was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania on May 16, 1949. It was in operation before then, but the State authorities had to satisfy themselves that such an agency was needed. People asked, "But are there these children in America?" The authorities wrote to every adoption agency in the United States and the answer came back that while there were not huge numbers of such children, there were many of them and they were the most needy among American children, "unadoptable" so far as the ordinary adoption agency was concerned. So Welcome House was incorporated, but on a unique basis. It was empowered by the State of Pennsylvania to receive children for adoption from anywhere in the United States, children born in the United States but of Asian or part-Asian ancestry. This nation-wide charter and special field made Welcome House the only adoption agency of its kind in our country.

The next step was to organize the agency according to the approved regulations of the Department of Child Welfare in Harrisburg. This was done, always with the friendly and helpful supervision of the Department. The agency is required to have an adequate office staff, that is, a minimum of two qualified social workers, one of whom may be the Executive Director. The personnel of this staff has changed sometimes for Welcome House does a new sort of job and not all trained workers

Miss Buck shown with one of her small proteges in her home in Dublin

can accommodate themselves to the unusual. The staff has settled into four excellent paid employees, Mrs. Agnes Miller, Executive Director; Mrs. Ernestine Ingerman, Office Manager; Miss Ruth Muir, case worker; and Mrs. Clare Scott, Secretary and assistant. Behind these four staunch and experienced persons are the Board of Directors and a wonderful volunteer corps of good citizens of our county who come in to help in the office at Fordhook Farm, or in the Welcome House Thrift Shop in Doylestown. A strong group of volunteers is also organized in Hatboro.

HOW is the agency supported? The budget is always hopefully around $60,000. Sometimes it is raised, sometimes it is not. For the number of children placed for adoption, or in foster care, either temporarily or permanently, the sum is modest. One need only compare it to the expenditures of other adoption agencies to realize how modest it is, actually. Every penny is carefully spent. Yet it is the wish of the Board that the few children who remain in permanent foster care shall be treated as all loved children are treated in their families, with adequate clothes, healthful food and educational opportunity

necessary to produce a good American citizen.

Funds come in small gifts from many places in the United States. Many small gifts are better than a few large gifts, sounder and more stable as a basis. The Board of Directors and staff and friends are grateful for the rare large gift, the one above twenty-five dollars, for then the services can be widened. We might be able to find the lonely child in some remote place in a distant state. Taxes being what they are, no handful of persons can possibly give enough to reach all the children that need Welcome House. Only many persons together can do it.

Our American-Asian citizens are especially valuable in these times of deliberately promoted international stresses, and because of Welcome House, Bucks County is well and favorably known in many of the countries of Asia. Here is a true incident. A resident of our county was travelling home from a trip to New York. She fell into conversation with a gentleman from Pakistan and found he was on his way to Washington, D. C. "But the first thing I want to see in your country," he told her, "is Welcome House. It is in Bucks County. Can you tell me about it?" Our lady was honest. She said, "Though I live in Bucks County I don't know anything about it." He was surprised. "Yet we know about it," he said. "We hear you care for children with Asian blood. The Communists tell us that all Americans dislike Asians, and so we are much interested in Bucks County and Welcome House."

These brothers reflect in their faces the fullness of life in their new home

The lady made it her business to inform herself when she reached home, and that is how I have the story. It is true that the story of Welcome House has reached Asian communities, not only through Asian visitors but also through the State Department, who have told the story on Voice of America programs as a counteraction against Communist propaganda in Asia. This is a by-product, however. We are interested in the children, not in programs.

In addition to direct adoptions, Welcome House carries on a growing referral service, helping other agencies to place the American-Asian child. An agency in Utah, let us say, writes to us that it has a half-Siamese child but no home in which to place him. Mrs. Miller studies our lists of waiting parents. Ah, we have three families in Utah who have applied for a child. She sends the names and addresses of those couples to the Utah agency which investigates, studies and approves a home and the baby is placed without ever coming to Bucks County. If there had not been Welcome House, the baby would have remained an orphan. Personally I consider the referral service one of the most important functions of our agency.

BEFORE the adoption and referral services were put into operation, Welcome House placed a few children with two permanent foster families, one in Bucks and one in Montgomery County. These children have grown up with these families, belong here now, go to school with our children; they are a part of our community, contributing as much as they have received. They offer us the wonderful opportunity of learning that Americans are rich in difference, and yet alike.

THIS is the story of Welcome House. I like to tell it again at Christmas time because it began with Christmas, when, I say, centuries ago in Bethlehem, a child was born unto us.

Winter Scene

by Alan Brady

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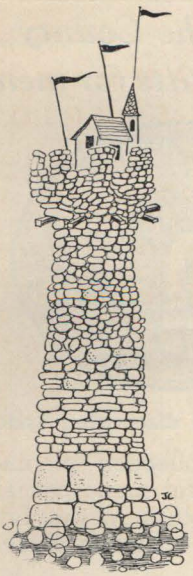

CRAZY TOM and HIS CASTLE

SINCE men's minds have been captivated with tales of knights in armor and of ladies leaning over the parapets to wave their caparisoned favorites on their way to do battle, there have been men who wanted a castle of their own. Such a one lived in Bucks County,—Thomas Meredith, Jr. His father came from Wales sometime before 1727 and received a grant of land on the Neshaminy, known as Barton's Ford which included a steep hill.

Thomas was described as a "youth with an inquiring mind and a strong disposition to study and learning". Too close application to study dethroned his reason and thereafter the problems of the world were a tangled web and he retreated further and further into a land of dreams, peopled with knights and ladies. Completely harmless, he wandered about telling his endless stories of castles, barons and enchantments to all who would listen. Soon he became known as "Crazy Tom", and it must have broken his father's heart to have sired such a son to carry on his honored name. He died a comparatively young man and left his estate to Thomas with the stipulation that his cousin, James Meredith, come to Bucks County and act as his guardian as long as Thomas lived. James Meredith thus became the nominal head of this Bucks County family and inherited when the obsessed boy died.

Thomas conceived the idea of building a castle on top of the hill overlooking the Neshaminy. Provided with a leather apron, he carried stones in it up the steep slopes, felled trees and hauled them up to the site. Day after day, year after year, he piled the stones in a thick-walled perfect circle as high as he could reach. Finally his strength failed, his weary toils were at an end, and he passed away in 1768.

Several years ago, an old manuscript came to light in the secret compartment of a desk bought at auction, dated "Castle Valley 17—" (the exact year torn away). It had been written by Tom and the following are abstracts:

"IN the reign of good King Tamanend, I Thomas Meredith, do set forth the true story of my exile. I hear now singing in my ears the words of my father, 'much learning hath made him mad'. . . . .Merlin's enchantments, 'tis said, far exceed all others. I myself have had a most vivid vision. Merlin appeared to me and spoke to me, thus, 'an old native woman is under an enchantment and she is really a beautiful damsel. You alone must collect stone and timber and bring them to the top of your hill and build a perfectly round castle which must be absolutely straight within and without. When you think your castle perfect, speak to her. She will understand and resume her proper form'."

He ends with these pathetic words, "I have carried stones and timber to the top of this hill. I have built my castle, only to tear it down when it seemed not perfect in her eyes. As yet the woman does not understand me. I will try again if I can find the strength for I find myself growing weaker."

• •

IN 1835, the ford was replaced with the longest covered bridge in the county (483 feet) and the stones and timber Tom had so painfully gathered were used in its construction. When the bridge was completed, the name of the small hamlet was changed to Castle Valley as he had always called it, a small tribute to a man who had encased himself in a dream world and who had tried so hard for so many years to be the means of transforming a hideous old Indian woman into a beautiful maiden by building a perfect castle on top of his hill.

—Paul Marsh

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7:45 A.M.
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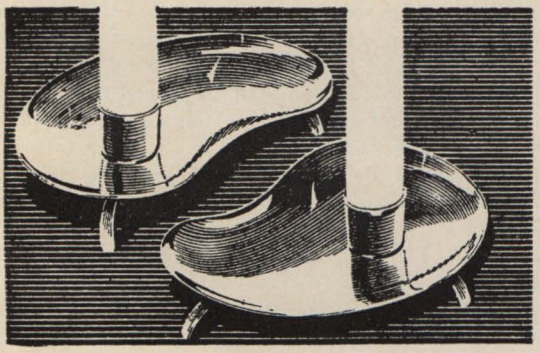

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This handsome building of native stone was built in 1810, nearly 150 years ago when the County Home was first established on the elevation known as Spruce Hill.

Christmas at Neshaminy Manor

Bucks Countians by the score bring holiday cheer to Neshaminy Manor, the County Home, at Christmas time.

"The wonderful thing about it," says the head nurse, Mrs. Mildred S. Mampe of Lahaska, "is that so many young groups are getting interested in us. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cubs and Brownies from Doylestown, Solebury, Warrington, Jamison, Hartsville. . .I can't think of them all. . . remember us at Christmas.

"The choir from Hatboro High School sings carols through the halls every year. One of our old ladies said to me last time, 'Even if I couldn't hear them sing, I'd just love to look at their faces!' Old people love young people and are very touched by their coming out to the home."

Every year the Girl Scouts in New Hope make a corsage for each woman resident and cookies for the men.

A group from Huntingdon Valley sings carols in the early evening outside the windows. Miss Lukens from Central Bucks High School last year decorated the walls and doors with Christmas greens.

The Penns Park Methodist Church traditionally sends a crate of oranges, as do the Newton Methodist Church and the Doylestown Market.

Beautifully wrapped packages come from the Presbyterian Church in Langhorne, carefully tagged "for a lady who likes to sew", or "for a man who likes to smoke". The nurses have the intriguing puzzle of fitting the gift to the patient.

The main Christmas party, complete with Santa Claus, is co-sponsored by the Doylestown Soroptimist Club and the Village Improvement Association. Until a few years ago only ambulatory residents could attend. Now that an elevator has been installed all but the very ill join in the fun. Though the chapel where the party is held has now become too small, the oldsters look forward to the party for weeks.

The ladies of Mt. Carmel Church, Doylestown, give prayer books and rosaries to the Roman Catholic patients. Table decorations, favors and wreaths are made by the scout groups. Last year one Cub Scout group made tree holders and decorations for the eight trees in the Manor hallways.

The residents, however, always trim the trees themselves, amid much joshing and competition. And two of the women unfailingly read the Christmas cards to those who are blind.

For the past eight years, the nurses have had to resort to camouflage where one patient is concerned. Inconsolable because her family never remembered her at Christmas time, no gift from any organization would suit. The nurses hit upon the plan of buying her a gift and mailing it to her. Her face glows each year as she opens her package "from home". It makes Christmas for her.

And after Christmas, County groups keep on helping. As many of the Manor residents are arthritic or blind and unable to pare an orange, the crates are opened after the holiday, apples are brought from the storeroom, and great quantities of fruitcup made. So one organization, learning of this, sends cookies and makes it a party.

The Neshaminy Manor is supported by Bucks County and a concern for its residents runs deep in the hearts of Countians. As the superintendent, Dr. S. P. McIlhatten, says, "We are certainly well remembered at Christmas."

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Symphony IN THE COUNTY

Vernon Hammond working with members of the Bucks County Symphony

NOT quite three years ago, the Bucks County Symphony came into being. In its first two years of existence almost five thousand people have attended the eight concerts given in the county. For two of these concerts the orchestra traveled to Langhorne and Perkasie. The remaining six concerts were given in Doylestown. Soloists have ranged from a fifteen year old girl pianist from Langhorne, a truly exceptional pupil of a native Bucks County teacher, to professionals in narration, piano and violin.

The trend back to performing and hearing good music is being felt all over the nation. People who wouldn't have considered going to a concert a decade ago are attending concerts, recitals and community music festivals regularly and taking their children to see and hear "live" musicians gleaned from their own ranks. The League of Symphony Orchestras last year listed six hundred and eighty-eight symphony orchestras for the whole nation. Divide that into the national population and you come up with the staggering figure of one symphony for every unit of 238,000 of population. Oddly enough, Bucks County's population, approximately 225,000, almost matches the national norm for the production and support of a symphony orchestra.

VERNON HAMMOND, the conductor, was well known in Philadelphia music circles. When the Hammonds moved into the county three years ago, it became apparent he was available and every effort was made to interest him in the County orchestra. His excellent musicianship and his ability to demonstrate and draw out of his musicians his own fine concept of performance place him almost in the role of teacher to the orchestra personnel.

There are sixty-three members, ranging in age from the teens to the sixties. There are a vice-president of a college, a minister, a remedial reading expert, an electronics engineer, a baker, teachers, housewives and mothers, business men and sales people. They come from Quakertown, Doylestown, Perkasie, Philadelphia and a dozen more towns in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. The orchestra personnel drive an average of five hundred miles every Wednesday evening when they come to home base at Central Bucks High School for rehearsal.

The needs of a symphony orchestra are twofold, to put it very briefly and bluntly—the "who" and the "how". The "who" are the people who play and the people who hear them. The "how" is inevitably a matter of budget, and requires the support and enthusiasm of our community.

• •

The next concert of the Bucks County Symphony will be held on December 10th at 8:30 P.M. in the Central Bucks High School, West Court Street, Doylestown. John Ranck of New York will be featured as piano soloist in the following program:

1. Overture to Idomeneo . . . . . Mozart
2. Masonic Funeral Music . . . . . Mozart
3. Sleeping Beauty Ballet . . . . Tchaikowsky
   Panorama
   Valse
4. Unfinished Symphony . . . . . Schubert
5. Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor . . . . . Rachmaninoff

Many Levittown homes had their windows festively decorated like the one above.

Levittown is Home for Christmas

One of the most breathtaking sights in the county this time of year is a night view from the top of the Levittown Parkway. If you enter it from the intersection at Newportville-Emilie road, only the homes on either side and sky ahead are visible until you reach the crest of the hill. Then suddenly, glittering like an open treasure chest of jewels, all of Levittown lies spread out below.

The panorama of sparkling colored lights, thousands upon thousands of them as far as the eye can see in any direction, proclaims that on her fourth birthday, Levittown is indeed "Home for Christmas."

To newer residents the abundance of holiday spirit in their community is a thrilling thing, and they enter into it immediately, decorating their homes as though they had lived in them for years. But if you question the "old timers," you'll find that the "Home for Christmas" phrase once set them shuddering.

They still reminisce about that first year when Christmas in Levittown was the most desolate, lonesome experience imaginable. Most of the houses in the few sections that had been completed were empty, nobody had a telephone, the streets weren't lit and huge piles of dirt were everywhere.

"People who had only been here a few weeks were so miserable they simply took off for anywhere they could find lights. . . New York, Philadelphia," says one Levitt-owner, "and one couple even went over to Trenton and spent Christmas Eve in a hotel!"

"But we couldn't let the Levittown Civic Association down. . .besides, we were firmly

entrenched, since we'd moved in six months before." The Civic Association staged its first annual Christmas Home Decorating Contest and it was won by a family in the Lakeside section.

"We sure were grateful for our log burning fireplaces," say the pioneers, "and we all sat around making plans for the next year when lots of families would be here."

Things happened that first year. Many new sections opened, the Civic Association continued to grow and many of its committees began to branch out into separate organizations which eventually were to become such groups as the Levittown Public Library and the Artists' Association. Many religious congregations had formed and the William Penn Center played host to community activities with wide open arms.

But "native" Levittowners, sure that their community would be going all out in the celebration of this second holiday season were mildly shocked to learn that many of the new families they'd been counting on were preparing to go home for Christmas." Home to see the folks!

Chagrined but undaunted, the old timers once again made merry together despite the many now occupied but empty homes, and the first prize winner in the LCA contest was the same family that had taken it the year before.

"On the whole, though, it was a pretty good holiday compared with the first one," recalls one young housewife, "And there was a raft of parties I'll never forget. Most of us," she says, "had very young babies, and it seemed as though everyone in town got the same idea of staying home and holding open house at the same time. Naturally, we all stayed home, ate our own hors d'oeuvres and drank our own egg-nog while our friends all went through the same routine in their homes. What a great community project that was!"

Last year Levittowners were pretty much settled and a truly festive air took possession of the community. The Shopping Center, which had opened three months before, was beautifully decorated and staged a big Christmas promotion that included a twenty-five foot high Santa Claus. Despite the six-year-old who complained that it's "not fair. . .he's standing on a ten-foot box,"

Many Levittown homes also had a young man like this one having a fine time under the tree.

most of the children were thrilled and thousands of notes were slipped into the proper box for North Pole delivery.

The Levittown Opera Company sang carols on the Mall bandshell and Pomeroy's, which was still only a construction site, sent a live Santa Claus to Levittown by helicopter, who, during a two-hour visit, drew the children to him with songs and chatter and really brought the holiday home.

A number of churches had been erected and each had its quota of Boy Scouts selling Christmas trees, while the Levittown Players toured the community presenting a one-act play in keeping with the holiday season for various community organizations.

New schools had also been completed and much seasonal activity emanated from them through the Parent-Teachers Associations and the children themselves. They trotted home and painted the eight foot picture windows with holiday designs while their fathers climbed around stringing lights. The LCA contest was a big thing by now, and a new family living in the Appletree section was awarded first prize for the decoration of their "Rancher" type home.

With the impetus of three holiday seasons behind it, Christmas 1955 is a fulfillment of all that last year promised. Most Levittowners started their Christmas plans very early. Women began to bake and freeze their own holiday specialties as soon as peaches went out of season, and most families, wouldn't dream of going anywhere . . .and are inviting the folks to their homes.

The children this year have not only a toy department, but an honest-to-goodness Toyland in the finest tradition of great metropolitan stores now that Pomeroy's is a reality, and of course, there are many more children.

Many more Levittowners, too, are proudly attending first Christmas Services in their own beautiful new churches that last year were only a dream, and it is interesting to note that in Levittown, with its three Jewish congregations, the corresponding festival of *Hanukah* is celebrated in such a way as to enable both the Christian and Jewish children to learn about and share each other's traditions and cultures.

A community of vital, gregarious young people. Levittown has many ideas of how to have a happy Christmas season. Most residents, glad to relax from the usually hectic daily routine of work and community activity, simply put on an old pair of jeans and relax with the kids. Other hardier souls use the holiday season to catch up on things that need doing around the house.

Still others, (and mostly women) feel that this is the one time of year when busy young homemakers should take advantage of the traditionally gracious entertaining that is part of Christmas and put away the jeans. But these hostesses have a peculiar problem in Levittown. When one recently spoke of entertaining, another answered, "Life in Levittown *is* entertaining!"

True, the famed "Kaffee Klatsches" started when the first housewife found the second, it is said, and sociability is the most prevalent occupation in the community. Every day in the week there are club luncheons and meetings which are charmingly done. But when a hostess decides to do it up in style, usually she will admit to a certain tongue-in-cheek attitude as she asks the men to wear a suit.

"Even the fanciest parties," explains one resigned party-giver, "wind up becoming the same old gab-fests. The women slip off their high heeled shoes and everyone slouches around on the end of their spines with their feet up. . .oh, well, it's comfortable," she adds.

Many interesting theories have been offered to explain this situation. One is that the architectural similarity tends to make people feel at home everywhere. One woman has a much more involved answer: "People in Levittown," she says, "are all on an equal footing, more or less. They take each other at face value. When you meet with a group of people who couldn't possibly know that once you wore braces on your teeth or flunked ninth grade algebra, you can be yourself."

Perhaps this does explain the wonderful social adjustment of what is after all a group of comparative strangers. But whatever the reason, the easy, relaxed kind of living that underlies what would seem breathless activity to outsiders makes for a gratifying holiday spirit that spreads over the huge community from one end to the other.

And the exciting scene when viewed from the top of the parkway, is like a great big "Merry Christmas" to all of Bucks County from Levittown, Pennsylvania.

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STATION WAGON SANTA

A FEW days before Christmas, a well-traveled station wagon swings up in front of the Doylestown Emergency Hospital. Somewhat painfully, a tall, snow-thatched bachelor emerges, lugging a box of toys.

He is Asher A. Ache (rimes with rocky), who is Santa Claus, Easter Bunny, Yankee Doodle and Puck rolled into one. Every year he does the round of hospitals and charitable institutions of all kinds, leaving behind a store of enchanting, never-never land toys for his favorite people, the children.

In the last thirty-one years he has made over twelve thousand toys for disabled children in thirty states, Alaska, Canada, Ireland, Austria, Japan and Korea. . .all for free.

It started as a hobby, combining woodworking with whimsy and a boundless love for kids. Now it is his life work, a panacea for spinal arthritis. He works literally night and day in his brown cottage in the woods at Hellertown for back pains generally wake him up after a few hours' sleep. Two jigsaws have worn out in his service and he is hard pressing a third.

Above, part of a display of the variety and imagination which have gone into these souvenirs of his annual pilgrimage. To the left, Mr. Ache poses with a friend, one of the many intricately worked jigsaw cutouts which say "Merry Christmas" so cheerfully.

The cottage and adjacent work shop have yielded every bit of spare space to the toys. In spite of this, the small house is immaculate and shipshape—with good cause. After serving with the 28th Division in World War I, Ache added on two hitches in the United States Navy. He is an expert at being tidy in a small space. Now retired, his life revolves around his toys for children.

"When I do something, it has to be right! I'm a Dutchman," he says. And his toys are gay perfection. Many are inspired by the Sunday comics; others are born of his own artistic imagination.

AS his income has lessened during recent years, others have helped him out. The Brown-Borheck Company in Bethlehem supplies him with scrap wood. A. C. Storey, of Philadelphia, sent him 500 wooden spools which he promptly cut up into discs for his add-and-subtract machine.

"I guess it costs me about fifty or sixty dollars a month to keep kids happy," he figures. Much of it goes for paint, postage and lollipops by the gross. His ambition is to have every child in the world enrolled in his "Lollipop Club". Dues are paid by eating one.

ACHE has come to know the world of sick and handicapped children very well. Many a blind youngster has traced his fingers over the jigsaw figures and learned for the first time the shape of animals, trains, stars, Christmas trees and bulging Santa Claus. He has tried to make learning fun and a long train of cars will have Arabic numerals on one side and Roman on the other. His abacus-like add-and-subtract machine makes number work simple for beginners. His toys have helped tots learn finger dexterity, to notice relative size, and most of all, to laugh.

When he reads in the newspaper of a blind, sick, invalid or orphaned child, he carefully wraps up his choicest toys and mails them with a note of encouragement. Often this is the start of a long exchange of toys from Ache and letters from the child.

Sometimes he gets cabin fever and a yen to see "my kids". So he backs out the wagon and loads two cartons with toys. "When I go out, I fill 'em up. What the hell. . . ."

—Olivia S. Miller

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Old Traveler

CHRISTMAS will soon be with us, like holly and mistletoe and sometimes snow. It is the season for all families to bring out the punch bowl. For as long as I can remember, eggnog has been inseparable from the tradition of Christmas. It is the one drink that holds an honored place with hosts, the inner circle of families and even the innkeeper. In homes where hard liquor is never dispensed throughout the year, egg nog is served as the traditional drink for Christmas and New Year.

Centuries ago, a nog was any kind of a drink served in a noggin or mug and the term was chiefly used for mixtures based on beer or ale. Today you never hear of nog except in the last half of egg nog.

Egg nog has been the subject of many classical debates during the Christmas holidays. There are those that argue that it should be a thick heavy mixture, a preparation to be eaten rather than drunk, others hold that it is a liquid and should be kept thin and free-pouring.

There are many formulas for egg nogs and many different ways of preparing them. There are, however, certain fundamentals that should be followed.

Egg yolks should always be beaten until they are light and frothy, the required sugar should be beaten into the yolks. Whites of eggs are never beaten into the mixture but folded in. They should be beaten until they form stiff peaks and poured on top of the mixture and blended only when you dip and pour. Cooling is effected by packing the bowl with crushed ice or by placing the bowl in a refrigerator. A short stay in a deep freeze will chill to a nicety.

For a rich but simple egg nog and for those who want their nog to bear some relationship to food, try the following. It is the way I mix it for Easter and the Yuletide holiday.

1 dozen egg yolks
1 quart bourbon
1 pound powdered sugar
2 quarts heavy cream

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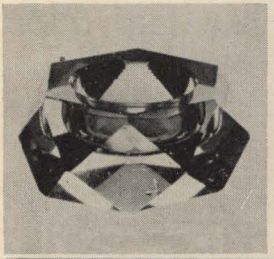

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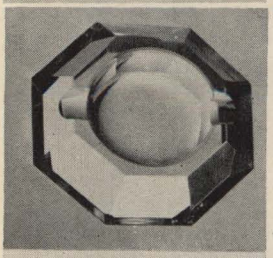

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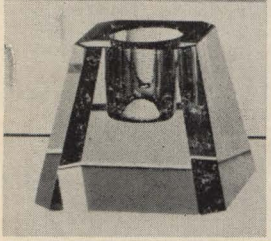

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Your guests will leave in a happy mood, some won't want to leave and, of course there may be a few who can't leave, not under their own power.

• •

CHRISTMAS, once a year, will be with us always. But, Christmas, like the old gray mare, "ain't what she used to be". Christmas, sixty-five years ago, was a family affair, celebrated with your old folks, your cousins and your aunts. I can remember my boyhood Christmases as vividly as I remember the first girl I kissed. How many of today's teenagers will be able to say that twenty-five years from now? Why I know some young gals who can't even remember the name of their first husband.

Christmas years ago began on Christmas Eve with the lighting of the wax candles on the tree, the unwrapping of gift packages, sometimes a relative dressed as Santa Claus; later, those who could sing visited the neighborhood homes singing Christmas carols. Not today. The younger folks hurry through a holiday dinner, champing all the time to get away to some celebration, far and apart from the family circle, where "streamlined ways" of quickly mixed drinks are guzzled at miniature bars. We older folks stay at home but do a little guzzling of our own. Next day everybody awakens, reaches for an iced towel and the aspirin bottle. Later, if able, we pick up the morning papers, read about the motor accidents and the brawls. No, folks, Christmas "ain't what she used to be".

—Henry L. Freking

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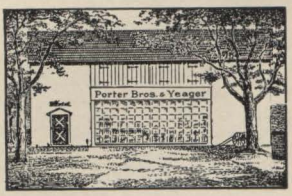

— *Just Right*

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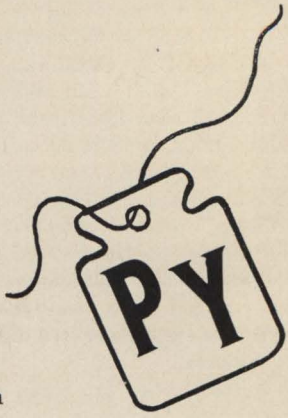

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Windmills and Bubble Lights

Holland Dutch become Pennsylvania Dutch

The van der Lely family, newly arrived in America. The painting on the wall is the work of Hendrik, the father.

IN front of a white house on Stump road near Plumsteadville stands a windmill—eternal symbol of Holland. Neatly fashioned, it stands some ten or twelve feet hight. Yet just as Holland itself was broken by the force of war, the windmill has been buffeted by storms and its wings destroyed.

It first saw service as a huge crate, packed solid with the worldly goods of Hendrik van der Lely, his wife, Anna, and three young sons, who emigrated to Bucks County two years ago from a suburb of Rotterdam.

There wasn't a lot to pack in the crate, as much of the van der Lely furniture had either been sold to pay the cost of immigration papers, or in the war years, had literally gone up in smoke. Piece by piece had been splintered and fed into a top hat-size stove to provide faint heat for warmth and cooking.

Mrs. van der Lely, a white-haired, sparkling woman, says, "If I live to be 100, I'll never forget the pound of dried peas I cooked on that stove. I paid 40 gilders for them, which was about a month's rent. After soaking the peas for three days and nights, I cooked them for 14 hours and they were still hard as rocks. We ate them anyway. The next day I told a friend what a time I had and she said they should have been wonderful because they were pre-war. Pre-war! That made those dried peas over four years old!"

She remembers, too, the St. Nicholas Day in 1941 when she stared in bafflement at three potatoes and a few spoonfuls of ersatz sugar. "I could not think what I could do with those three potatoes that would be a treat for the children."

St. Nicholas Day without a treat for the children would have been the death of a tradition reaching back to the days when the Spanish conquered Holland.

The smaller children believe that St. Nicholas is always on the chimney, watching to see if they are good. And their eyes grow round when they hear the threat, "Watch out, or Black Piet will visit you on St. Nicholas Day!" Black Piet brings only a switch.

In normal times St. Nicholas Day means mouth-warming candy animals, called "sugar beasts", "Marzipan", made of ground almonds, butter and sugar and the ever-delightful "butter letters" and "chocolate letters", crisp envelope-shaped confections.

To Mrs. van der Lely it seemed impossible to transform potatoes into a St. Nicholas Day sweet. Yet, she mashed the potatoes, added the sugar and somehow, on her top hat stove, baked holiday cookies.

"Our last Christmas in Holland was a much happier one. Dutch friends in America sent us a box containing used clothes, cigarets for my husband, canned food and chewing gum. It arrived on December 17, but the boys insisted we open it right away."

Hans, Hank and Tom were so excited about the gum that they ran out on the balcony of their apartment and shouted to the neighbors, and shared it with all the children within earshot.

"You know, I think they felt like St. Nicholas himself!"

It took the van der Lely's two anxious years of compiling clearances from civic and medical authorities to achieve their first Christmas in America. They were haunted by the twin spectres of cost and rejection right up till the moment they were cleared by the immigration authorities in New York.

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It was Wayne S. Bittings who met them at the pier in New York and brought them to his poultry farm in Plumsteadville, where they were to live and work.

With a full heart, Mrs. van der Lely tells of the joy of their first Christmas in Bucks County. The kindliness of the Bittings, neighbors and teachers overwhelmed them.

Christmas dinner was a far cry from the days when they had eaten bulbs fried in a scant tracing of margarine.

With a twinkle in her eyes, Mrs. van der Lely recalls the family safari to the 5 & 10 in search of a few Christmas tree ornaments. At their first glimpse of bubble lights, they shouted, "Look the water's boiling!"

Amused, enchanted, they carefully counted out the cost, and trooped home with the lights as an especially prized Christmas possession.

Intelligent and hardworking, the family has settled smoothly into Bucks County life. They belong to the Plumsteadville PTA. Their Old World acquaintance with the Don Cossack Chorus was the deciding factor in a fund-raising project for the school.

"As we cannot live without music", they have joined the Bucks County Choir. Mr. van der Lely, an accomplished artist, often goes out with his paints and canvas before he starts work in the morning.

This year his wife served as a solicitor for the United Services drive. "I wish I could go to every house all around. I want to tell everybody, 'You don't know how rich you are in this country!" Proud of their new heritage, the family is now taking out citizenship papers.

Their son, Tom, now 14, has converted an old Ford into a tractor, to the amazement of his family. He is already farming five-eights of an acre of land, which he rents. Hans, 17, is a full-fledged hot rodder. while Hank, now 20, is active in young people's groups and sings in the Grace Gospel Chapel choir.

The whole family is currently enrolled in night school at Central Bucks High School. The boys are studying farm mechanics, Mr. van der Lely, English; and Mrs. van der Lely is learning to drive a car.

As soon as he gets time, and the kind of wood he wants, Mr. van der Lely plans to build a new set of wings for the windmill. Passersby should not be surprised if they see bubble lights on it.

Santa is calling!

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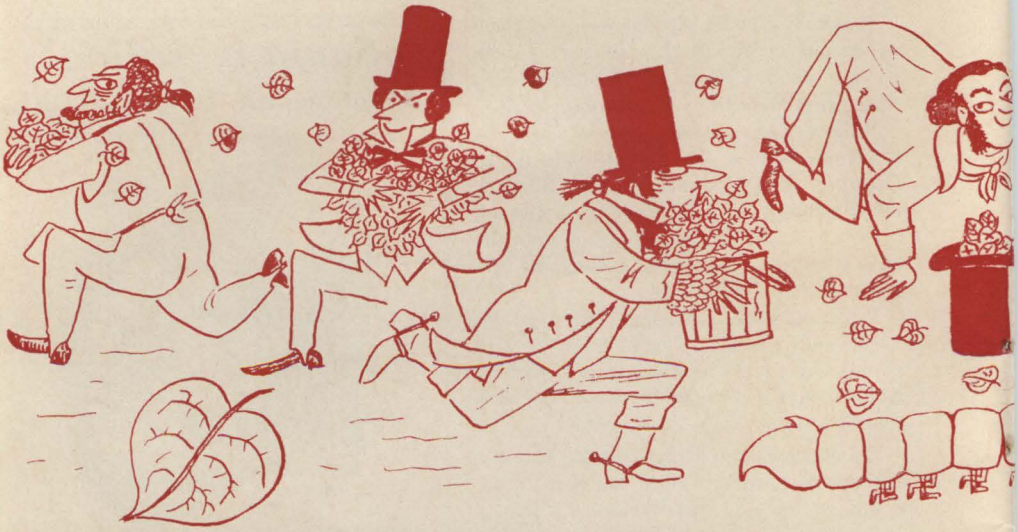


PIE IN THE COUNTY SKY

The Silk Worms Wouldn't Spin

BUCKS COUNTY despite its stable and conservative tradition in the early 19th Century had no immunity to "pie in the sky". Between 1837 and 1839 a strange fever fell upon the men and women of our county. When the epidemic had worn itself out, it was called **morus multicaulis** fever by those who had been free from the infection. It first attacked the people of New Jersey along the Delaware and leaped across to the lower part of the county, spreading through Newtown and Doylestown. It was a get-rich-quick scheme which stirred the imagination of men and women alike. The idea was to plant mulberry trees, obtain silk worms from China and produce at practically no cost but a few hours of pleasant labor silk thread to be sold at fantastic profits to the markets dependent upon the Orient for silk to weave milady's dresses.

The local and New Jersey newspapers teemed with accounts of people who by planting mulberry trees and feeding the leaves to the industrious silkworms were making fortunes. It was the Indian rope trick. A person always knew someone who knew the man who had made himself wealthy. Rumors of easy money flew back and forth across the county. Thousands of acres were planted with mulberry saplings for which the people paid one dollar apiece. A Burlington man sold twelve thousand dollars worth from two acres of ground. Seeds sold at sixteen dollars an ounce. Farms were mortgaged and homes sold outright. An elderly lady in Doylestown pawned her spectacles to buy a few seedlings.

The fever burned so hot that no one questioned the length of time it would take to grow the trees to an age where they could be safely stripped of their leaves. No one could wait and the silk worms were purchased before the trees had matured. It was not an uncommon sight to see men and women armed with bushel baskets scurrying through the streets trying to buy the precious leaves from people who had them as shade trees. Unguarded mulberries were stripped of their leaves on moonless nights and their unhappy owners rushed to the village constables to have the silkworm people arrested.

Nurtured since 2400 B. C. by the Chinese, the delicate silkworms did not respond to the untutored care of the Bucks Countians. Even when there were sufficient leaves to feed them, they sickened and died by the

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS
BY JERRY CALLAHAN

tens of thousands. The *morus multicaulis* fever died with them.

Two large buildings had been built, one at Newtown, the other at Doylestown and the two towns were called the multicaulis centers of the county. The Doylestown building became an annex for the Catholic Church, and the one in Newtown fell into disrepair and was torn down.

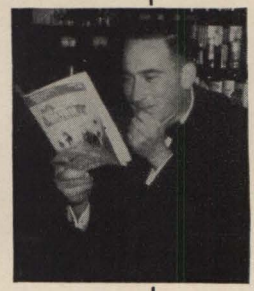
For the next few years, the farmers and others who had been struck by the fever were busy ripping up the half-grown trees and returning their land to a more profitable product. Occasionally you will still find a mulberry growing in a hedgerow, and wonder how it came to be there. *Morus multicaulis* fever planted it.

• •

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN did raise silkworms experimentally before the Revolution and it is said that a lady appeared at a ball in England wearing a dress woven from silk imported from this country. In 1759 about ten thousand pounds of cocoons were shipped to London from Georgia. The cost of labor in this country compared with China and the lack of knowledge made the culture of silkworms unprofitable.

—Cynthia Ann Baker

DAY SHIFT



While Brother Bob Brugger is broadcasting from a competitive restaurant every day at noon, Joe Brugger conducts the luncheon club at the Pipersville Inn.

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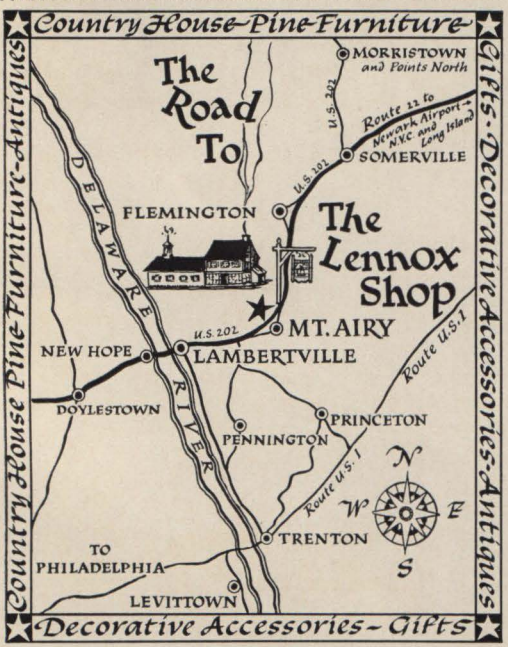

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Browsing through Bucks with Brugger

When the Republicans gathered on Election Night at their Doylestown headquarters to solemnly count the votes that elected Bucks County's first Democratic judge in half a century, few realized that the very building in which they were meeting had a strange date with destiny. Republican headquarters is the former home of the late Judge Harman Yerkes. . .the county's last Democratic jurist.

One of the county's most respected sportsmen, **Ivey Estep,** lost his left hand in an accident when he was a child. The tragedy, long forgotten, did not stop Esty from becoming an outstanding hunter and fisherman. Single-handed he's gone on to teach many a youngster, and contemporary, the finer points of sport. His favorite story concerns a fishing trip with a neighbor's youngster. The boy was having trouble tieing his trout fly. . .Estep stood patiently by, finally with a few expert twists tied the fly for him. The future angler looked up at the veteran in awe: "Yeah, but it's easy for you. . .you have only one hand to get in the way."

Figures for Friday: Every major storm in the past two years. . .Hurricanes Hazel, Connie, the floods of Diane, and all of last year's snowstorms arrived on a Friday night.

Corn as high as an elephant's eye was plenty high enough for **Oscar Hammerstein II** when he penned the lyrics to **Oklahoma**(The rumor that perhaps a Bucks County corn field was the original inspiration is quickly dispelled upon seeing Hollywood's version of the Broadway hit. Farmers and elephants, alike, will gasp at the wide, wide screen's bumper crop which is a staggering 16 feet, twice as high as an elephant's eye!

One of the nation's foremost public speakers and a favorite after-dinner toastmaster, here in the county is the Reverend **George Creitz** of Easton. In my own limited career on the mashed potatoes, peas and creamed turkey circuit, his introduction is the highlight: "Ladies and Gentlemen, it is seldom that a Protestant minister has the opportunity of introducing a Roman Catholic bartender to the wives of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon on the eve of Yom Kippur. . .I give you Brugger."

WHEN the much publicized **Bernarr MacFadden** died this fall, reporters might well have descended upon Point Pleasant, Bucks County, and the man who knew the sensationalist best. . his one-time editor, **Emil Gauvereau. "Mike"** Gauvereau belonged to journalism's most colorful day. As editor of Mac Fadden's New York Graphic, **"Mike"** made newspaper history. From his River Road home, he summed up the whole dramatic, and very often ridiculous, era in **Dumbells and Carrot Strips,** a best-seller which continued the MacFadden legend to the tune of a million-dollar law suit.

THE inn-keepers' yarns about Bucks County would make a book in themselves. None funnier, perhaps, than the incident that occurred when **Henrietta Cunningham** operated the **Tow Path** in New Hope. A women's organization made arrangements to have lunch with Henrietta. It was at the height of the season and the main dining room was set aside for the large group. The "girls" arrived in two bus loads, promptly took over the Inn and, each in turn, produced a brown paper bag and her own lunch. It wasn't quite as funny at the moment, Henrietta recalls and she recalls, too, that it wasn't a complete loss: a few of the guests ordered coffee and hardly anyone went seconds on the catsup.

Plumsteadville's attractive **Janet Stamm,** recently retired as dean of women, Cedar Crest College, and former beauty editor of Charm magazine, is now studying for her doctorate at the U of P. The youthful career girl, who looks more like a co-ed than a professor, is a certified engineer.

. . .The **John Falter** painting in the bar of **Vincent's** Warrington Inn is dedicated to Vincent's cousin and fellow-restaurateur **Frank Conti** of the Cross Keys Inn.

Chief of Police Ed Wunsch, lower Southampton Township, was an innocent bystander on the fatal Christmas Eve of the Feasterville murders. Civilian Wunsch, an ex-Marine, organized the first police force in an area which now boasts one of the county's lowest crime rates.

COUNTY CHECKERB

a fitting picture as our first in the new County Checkerboard: Thanksviging get-together of the Ward family in New Hope. Center rear, matriarch Constance Ward, our Art Editor who compiled the portfolio in this issue, elsewhere Alan and Alice Ward, former owners of the Traveler and publishers of the New Hope Gazette; also assorted Ward relatives and friends.

left to right, Mrs. Harry J. Willis, Mrs. William Dilworth, Mrs. C. A. Sienkiewicz, Mrs. W. Arnold Blythe, and Miss Melba Lukens as members of a panel, "Bucks County Women Organize for Safety", part of the Accident Prevention Conference held in Doylestown under the auspices of the Automobile Club of Philadelphia.

at the D.A.R. Antique Show held in Alexandria, Va., David Sheedy of the Distelbird in New Hope entertains movie old-timer Corinne Griffith and Paul L. Etline, manager of the show, with a view of some antiques from the County; ten minutes after this picture was taken, a decorator came along and bought out the contents of the entire booth.

the first Golden Age Club organized in Doylestown is off to a good start in St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A Christmas party with gifts, carols, games, and refreshments will be given December 7th at 1 p.m.

perhaps one of our readers can identify the dismayed-looking gentleman shown at an auction held this summer. Bob Stevens caught this expression which every auction-goer must remember feeling at one time or another.

a holiday visitor to the County, S. Claus opens his branch office at Pomeroy's in Levittown. The County's been growing so fast he had to get here just after Thanksgiving in order to get his Christmas shopping done in time!

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Tom Vroman, talented Levittown artist, will have his Christmas scenes featured on Hallmark cards this year. Rushland's **Don Mattern,** radio & TV director for the city of Philadelphia, started his highly successful career as a disc jockey in Puerto Rico. . . .Our nomination for the wee-est village in Bucks: **Stoopville** down near Dolington. . .any other nominations?

The charming **Mrs. Stanley Howe,** who conducts the **House of Howe** in Ottsville and another antique shop on route 202 . . .remembers more exciting days in Bucks County when celebrities were not quite so common and her late husband, as secretary to New York's Mayor **La Guardia** entertained visiting dignitaries on his Bucks County farm. It seems like an awful long time ago, and youngsters to-day wouldn't be impressed with the name, but I can remember the tremendous excitement a boy felt at going to Ottsville to gaze on **Wrong Way Corrigan** just back from Dublin, Ireland, and Broadway's ticker-tape parade. Whatever happened to him?

Memories are funny things. . . .It was Christmas Eve and I was somewhere in France. Guard duty and in all the night only the sound of another soldier's boots on the cobbled streets of a place and a Christmas 3,000 miles from home. I remembered then the depression years and the excitement of a new bike which maybe wasn't new. . . the Christmas plays at our country school . . .Santa Claus when there was only one of him, and he looked an awful lot like Doylestown's Reverend Charlie Freeman. Memories of the drive, Pipersville to Doylestown, midnight Mass. The farm houses with their warm lights like miniature pasteboards beneath a tree that was the cold December night, twinkling in a starry heaven. My war is over, another, younger boy's Korea has come and gone and still the soldiers march at Christmas. My Christmas wish to you is a fervent prayer that there will be yet another Christmas when all the world is at home and in Peace.

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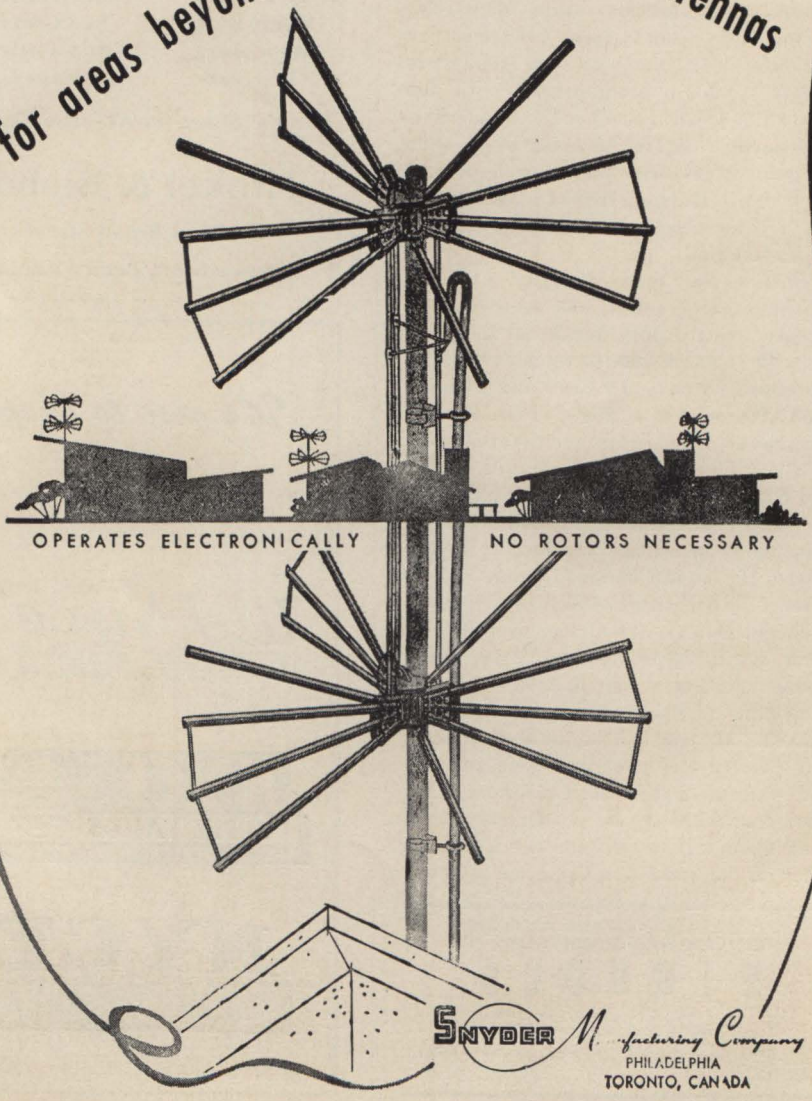

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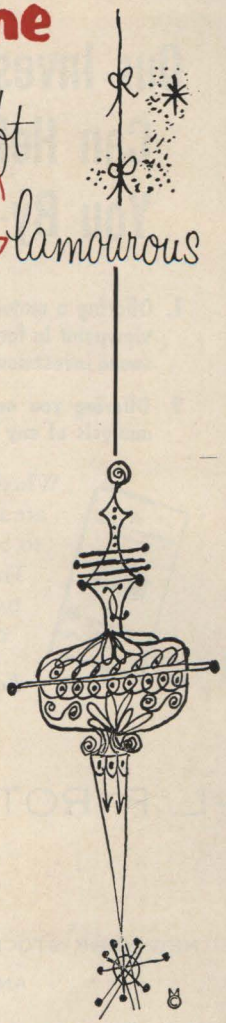

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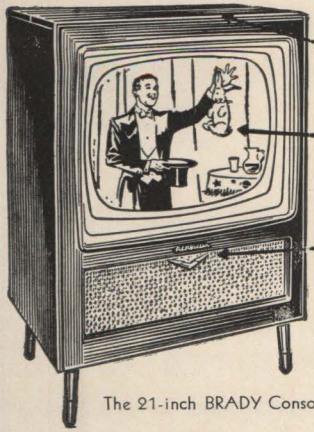

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